

- 1/4/38 - 679 - Opening of 2 new playgrounds—Old Bway, Ferry Terminal at foot of Broadway & Ken ave., Bklyn and 34th ave., between 96th and Junction Blvd., Queens. Total of 253 added to Parks since Jan. 1934. 58 opened during 1937 - total available today is 361.
- 1/6/38 - 680 - Erection of bronze statue of Henry Hudson on top of Hudson Memorial column. Redesigning and reconstruction of H. Hudson Memorial Park.
- 1/10/38 - 681 - Result of conference held by Mr. Moses, Dr. Wm. Tiffany and Mr. Wm. Haugaard for preliminary planning for evacuation of Ward's Island.
- 1/14/38 - 682 - Opening of lower level drive between Dyckman St. and Geo. Washington Bridge on Henry Hudson Pkway, Jan. 15th.
- 1/16/38 - 683 - Authorization by U.S. Navy of funds for improvement of the Dover Patrol Memorial in Fort Hamilton Park, Bklyn.
- 1/15/38 - 684 - Opening in Alley Pond Park for playground. Total 254 added since Jan. 1934. 58 during 1937. Total 362.
- 4/18/39 - 684A - Memo. accompanying N.Y.C. Pkwy. Authority Bill
- 1/19/38 - 685 - Ice Skating Carnival, Fri. Even. Jan. 21st in Central Park.

meeting

- 1/20/38 - 686 - Comment by Robt. Moses to the press about State Building at World's Fair.
- 2/26/38 - 687 - Plans and bids on construction of a pedestrian bridge over the New York Central Railroad tracks in Inwood Hill Park by Henry Hudson Parkway Authority.
- 2/28/38 - 688 - Grant of permission of Bd. of Ed. to use P.S. #28 for playground, located on 115th st between 14th ave. & 14th Rd. College Point.
- 2/22/38 - 689 - Completion of combination tide gate, dam and bridge at Flushing Meadow Park.
- 2/10/38 - 689A - Bill before Legislature requesting appropriation of \$ 3,300,000 for arterial construction in NYC
- 2/12/38 - 690 - Opening of last two sections of Williamsbridge Reservoir recreation center. Resume of acquisition and development.
- 2/23/38 - 690A - The Grave of An Incurable Child
- 2/25/38 - 691 - Brooklyn Library and park in rear on site of Mt. Prospect Park Reservoir to be completed and developed with the assistance of Park Department.
- MISSING 3/2/38 - 692 - Park Department announces approaching completion of Boat Basin at 79th & Riverside. Description of facilities and rates.
- 3/4/38 - 693 - Randall's Island chosen for track meet and field events by Intercollegiate A. A. A. A. To be held June 3rd and 4th.
- 3/4/38 - 694 - Bicycling track to be opened at the Rice Memorial Stadium in Pelham Bay, The Bronx, as soon as weather conditions permit.
- 3/4/38 - 695 - Announcement as to rulings on conditions of surf fishing at Rockaway Beaches.
- mi 3/9/38 - 696 - Plans under way for renovation of nine bathhouses recently taken over by Park Department from the jurisdiction of the Borough President of Manhattan.
- 3/10/38)
- 3/12/38 - 697 - Ceremonies, Randall's Island March 12th, marking unveiling of plaque in memory of children who died while inmates of House of Refuge.
- 3/14/38 - 698 - Close coordination of the planning of recreational areas with the plans for new Queensbridge Housing development.
- 3/20/38 - 699 - Announcement of floating bath in Hudson River at 96th St.
- 3/21/38 - 700 - 1938 Spring and Summer program of Recreational Activities.
- 3/22/38 - 701 - Flowering Trees and Shrubs along N.Y.C. Parkways,
- 3/24/38 - 702 - 8,000,000 car passed over Henry Hudson Bridge, Wed. Mch. 23d.
- 3/26/38 - 703 - Listing of offices for Golf and Tennis applications-5 Boro.
- 3/30/38 - 704 - N.Y.C. Parkway Authority issuance of \$18,000,000 in bonds for rehabilitation of Rockaway Beach.

- ✓ 4/11/38 - 705 - Announcement of Japanese Cherry Trees at south end of Old Reservoir site in Central Park.
- ✓ 4/12/38 - 706 - Comment on statement of P.N. Yountz-Bklyn Central Museum and Children's Museum.
- ✓ 4/13/38 - 707 - No funds for tree planting except on Parkways. Co-operation with property owners about trees, etc. service rendered free of charge.
- ✓ 4/14/38 - 708 - Opening of 10 golf courses Sat. a.m. Apr. 16th at 10 6 a.m. Information as to permits and offices where obtainable.
- ✓ 4/13/38 - 709 - Annual Easter Flower Show in Prospect Park greenhouse. Doors open 10 a.m., April 15th and will be open each day from 10. a.m., to 4 p.m., for about 2 weeks.
- ✓ 4/13/38 - 710 - Big Apple contest April 14th at 4 p.m. for children up to 16 years of age using playground at 74th St. and Henry Hudson Parkway.
- 4/14/38 - 710A *opening of 10 golf courses*
- 4/16/38 - 711 - Opening of new playground and comfort station at Lafayette & Marcy aves., Bklyn. This makes a total of 255 playgrounds added to the Park Dept's. recreational system since Jan. 1934. Total number today is 363.
- 4/20/38 - 712 - Children's pet shows will be held in designated playgrounds of 5 Boro's on 2 successive Saturdays, April 23d and April 30th at 2 p.m., and on Friday April 22d, at 4 p.m.
- 4/20/38 - 713 - Thursday afternoon, April 21st at 2 p.m., children of the playgrounds will begin planting the 2,000 individual garden plots throughout the 5 Boro's.
- 4/22/38 - 714 - Erection of signs numbering all exits from parkways in the city.
- 4/21/38 - 715 - Use of play centers will terminate Saturday April 23d so areas can be prepared for the coming swimming season. Swimming pools will re-open to the public Saturday, May 28th at 10 a.m. 1,310,100 children and adults have made use of facilities offered since the last years swimming season. (Recreation activities are listed).
- 4/23/38 - 716 - Opening of new playground and comfort station at Lee St. between Lynch and Middleton Sts. Bklyn. This is the last of 24 sites acquired by Parks by condemnation in 1936. Total of 256 playgrounds since Jan. 1934. Total number available today is 364.
- ✓ 4/27/38 - 717 - Finals of Roller-skating, Hockey tournament to be held at Roosevelt playground, Sunday May 1st, at 2 p.m. Semi-finals take place Saturday, April 30th at 1.30 p.m., same location.
- ✓ 4/28/38 - 718 - Concert on Sunday May 1st, on the Mall, Central Park at 3 p.m., given in conjunction with plans of the New York Music Week Committee and Municipal Art Committee.

- 4/27/38 - 719 - Final game City-Wide Basketball Tournament, Saturday, April 30th at 2 p.m. at Roosevelt playground, between Manhattan & Queens. (Scores)
- 4/28/38 - 720 - Model Sail and Motor Boat Regatta, Saturday April 30th, 1.30 p.m., at Conservatory Lake, Central Park. (Qualifications and further races listed for all Boro's).
- missing 5/4/38 - 721 - Hearing May 4th at 10.30 a.m., before Colonel D. McCoach, District Eng., in charge of 1st Div. U.S. Engineers at 39 Whitehall st., on proposed footbridge to Ward's Island. ~~at 10.30 a.m.~~ missing
- 5/6/38 - 722 - Letter to City Editor attaching booklet and photographs on completion of Henry Hudson Bridge and approaches, and Henry Hudson Memorial Park. Program of exercises to be held Saturday, May 7th in connection with opening.
- 5/6/38 - 723 - Finals of handball tournament May 7th, 2 p.m., at Houston and 1st Street Playground, Manhattan.
- 5/13/38 - 724 - Annual Manhattan Boro Horseshoe Pitching Contest, at Circle Lawn, W. 106th st near Central Park West, at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 14th. Inter-Boro Contest to be held at Circle Lawn Saturday, May 21st at 1.30 p.m.
- 5/13/38 - 725 - Learn to Swim Campaign in Parks Swimming Pools, starting Saturday June 11th until Saturday June 24th.
- 5/14/38 - 726 - Opening two new playgrounds and a comfort station. Richmond - at Midland and Lincoln Ave near 10th St. Bronx - Stebbins Ave., north of E. 167th St. This makes a total of 258 playgrounds added to Parks recreational system since Jan. 1934. 366 available todate.
- 5/13/38 - 727 - A Pitch and Putt golf course will open at Jacob Riis Park Saturday, May 14th. Bath houses at Riis Park, Orchard Beach and Coney Island will open to public May 28th. At same time all game areas will open. Fireworks and outdoor dancing at Riis and Orchard Beach scheduled for 1st week in July. Parking at Riis accommodates 14,000 cars - Orchard Beach 4,000; charge 25¢ beginning May 28th. Last year Riis park visited by 1,725,000 - Orchard Beach 2,100,000.
- 5/18/38 - 728 - The Eradication of Tent Caterpillars.
- 5/18/38 - 729 - 4th Annual Baby Parade of Fort Tryon Playground, Saturday, May 21, at 11 a.m. Held under the auspices of the Mother's Club of Ft. Tryon Playground and Inwood Chamber of Commerce.
- 5/18/38 - 730 - Bronx Playgrounds presents The Mikado at Mullaly Park Recreation Bldg., E. 165th St. and Jerome Ave., Friday and Saturday, May 20, 21 at 8.15 p.m.
- 5/19/38 - 731 - Finals of Horseshoe Pitching Contest on Circle Lawn, Central Park and 106th St., Saturday, May 21, at 1 p.m.

- 5/24/38 - 732 - Finals of Harmonica Contest , on the Mall, Central Park, Wednesday, May 25, at 8.30 p.m.
- 5/24/38 - 733 - Finals of Marble Shooting Contest at Hecksher Playground, Central Park, Thursday, May 26th, at 4 p.m.
- 5/25/38 - 734 - Reopening of 12 outdoor swimming Pools, Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m. Manhattan:-Hamilton Fish, Thomas Jefferson, Colonial, and Highbridge - Brooklyn: McCarren, Sunset, Red Hook and Baby Head - Bronx: Crotona - Queens: Astoria - Richmond: Faber and Tompkinsville.
- 5/31/38- 735 - Board of Estimate at its meeting of May 5th, 1938 made funds available for alteration of 4 Public bath houses transferred from the Boro Pres. of Man. jurisdiction, to the Park Dept. Locations: East 23d St and Ave A; 232 W. 60th St; 409 W. 28th St and 342 E. 54th St. Also description of work to be done at each location.
- 6/1/38 - 736 - Announcement of completion of Animal Naming Contest held in P.S. 6, 59 and 76. Ceremony for officially naming the Animals in Central Park Zoo on Friday, June 3d at 2 p.m.
- 6/2/38 - 737 - The discobolus formerly in Central Park northwest of the Metropolitan Museum of Art has been removed to Randall's Island. Description of Monument.
- 6/2/38 - 738 - Sunday, June 5th at 2.30 p.m., finals of the one act play Contest will be held on the Mall. Listing of Plays, Boro's and judging.
- 6/3/38 - 739 - Dept. of Parks is cooperating with the Dept. of Markets in checking violators of peddlers from doing business within 500 feet of any park, parkway, beach, boardwalk, playground, swimming pool, recreation center, or other property or facility under jurisdiction of Parks.
- 6/6/38 - 740 - Bids were received by N.Y.C. Parkway Authority for the demolition of all houses and other structures in the path of the new development along the Rockaway beach front and leading to the Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge. Bidders listed. Work will progress during summer without interfering with the public use of beach or the ~~xxxxx~~ detouring of traffic over Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge.
- 6/8/38 740A
6/8/38 - 741 - U.S.Senate today passed the Rivers and Harbors bill authorising further channel improvements in Flushing Bay in accordance with Park Dept. plans.
- 6/8/38 - 742 - Dept. of Parks announces that "The Portable Farm Yard" on wheels will visit playgrounds throughout the Park system starting June 9th. Schedule, dates and locations attached.
- 6/8/38 - 743 - The Bronx Playgrounds Operetta Club will present "The Mikado" on the Mall, Central Park, Friday, June 10th, at 8/30 p.m. Resume of past performances and cast listed.
- 6/8/38 743A
6/20/38 - 744 - An Archery demonstration and tournament will take place at Alley Pond Park, Queens, Saturday, June 11, at 2 p.m. Medals will be awarded.

Completed by J. Cooper
 Cooper Park

missing

- 6/10/38 - 745 - Dept. of Parks announces that the portion of the Motor Parkway from Horace Harding Blvd. to the City line at Nassau County, was officially placed under its jurisdiction by Board of Estimate on June 9th. Work will start immediately. Resume of work to be done.
- 6/10/38 - 746 - Dept. of Parks announces that the Geo. Cromwell Recreation Center, transferred from the Boro Pres. of Richmond to Dept. of Parks on May 1st, will continue to operate as a recreation center. Resume of staff, facilities and program listed.
- 6/10/38 - 747 - Learn to Swim Campaign will commence Saturday, June 11th at all indoor and outdoor swimming pools. Listing of Pools, addresses and time, also Organizations connected with this campaign.
- 6/10/38 - 748 - Annual City-wide Athletic Meet for boys and girls of Park Dept. playgrounds will take place at Randall's Island, Saturday, June 11th at 1 p.m. Events listed.
- 6/8/38 - 749 - Ceremonies in connection with the completion of the redesign and reconstruction of Cooper Park, 4th ave and E. 7th St., Man. will be held June 9th, at 2.30 p.m.
- 6/13/38 - 750 - Announcement of Joyce Kilmer night of the Gaelic Musical Society will be held on the Mall, Central Park, on Tuesday, June 14, at 8.30 p.m. Program attached.
- 6/15/38 - 751 - "Federal Expenditures For Dredging of Flushing Bay Increased to \$699,000.00".
- 6/10/38 - 752 - Announcement of an Archery demonstration and tournament at Alley Pond Park, Saturday, June 11th, at 2 p.m. James as 744
- 6/16/38 - 753 - Announcement of the Junior Musical Instrument Contest, on The Mall, Central Park, Sunday, June 19, at 2.30 p.m.
- 6/17/38 - 754 - Announcement of a number of special festivals in Manhattan Playgrounds, to be held on Saturday, June 18th.
- 6/17/38 - 755 - Announcement of a statue depicting famed Mother Goose characters has been erected at the entrance of the Mary Harriman Rumsey playground in Central Park.
- 6/18/38 - 756 - Announcement that plans for improvements to the Isaac L. Rice Memorial in Pelham Bay Park, were approved by the Board of Estimate on June 16th. Bidders listed.
- 6/21/38 - 757 - Announcement of bids taken this a.m., for the construction of a new bathhouse at Betsy Head Pool at Hopkinson ave, between Livonia and Dumont aves., Bklyn. Bidders listed.
- 6/22/38 - 758 - Announcement that 360 playground girls will participate in the city-wide folk dance contest on the Mall, Central Park, Saturday, June 25th, at 2.30 p.m. List of dances and playgrounds represented.

- ✓ 6/23/38 - 759 - Detailed Announcement that on Sunday, June 26th at 2.30 p.m. the Bronx Recreation Division of the Dept. of Parks will present a dance festival called "The Pageant of Flowers" at Williamsbridge Playground, Bainbridge Ave and 208th St.
- ✓ 6/23/38 - 760 - Regulations announced as to locations, etc., where fishing from Park Shore Fronts in Manhattan will be permitted.
- ✓ 6/26/38 - 761 - Announcement of 140 acres in Central Park, set aside for "passive use" during the summer months.
- ✓ 6/29/38 - 762 - Statement by Robert Moses at the Dinner of Chamber of Commerce of the Rockaways.
- ✓ 6/30/38 - 763 - Announcement of a varied program of activities in commemoration of Independence Day in 369 playgrounds and recreational areas

Library

763
For Release

IMMEDIATELY

FOURTH OF JULY PARK DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

The Department of Parks announces that a varied and comprehensive program of activities in commemoration of Independence Day has been prepared for the thousands of children who frequent the 369 playgrounds and recreational areas under the jurisdiction of the Park Department.

The activities will include track and field meets, flag drills, the salute to The Flag, the singing of patriotic songs, plays, recitations, the reading of the Declaration of Independence and organized group games. Baseball and soft ball games are scheduled for the older boys.

At 10 A.M. America's Good Will Union will conduct patriotic exercises on the Mall, Central Park, and similar exercises will be conducted there at 2:30 P.M. by the National War Veterans' Association.

The Naumburg Concert will be given on the evening of July 4th, at 8:15 P.M., on the Mall, Central Park.

Washington Square Park will be the scene of a patriotic celebration by the "Friends of Garibaldi" at 2:30 P.M.

From 7 to 10 P.M., at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, the University Forum of America will commemorate the Fourth of July by appropriate exercises.

At the bandstand in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, the Knights of Columbus, Long Island General Assembly, are planning a monster July 4th demonstration at 9:30 A.M.

June 30, 1938.

June 29, 1938
762STATEMENT BY ROBERT MOSES
AT
DINNER OF CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE OF THE ROCKAWAYS.

Until yesterday, I had every expectation of being present at your dinner but there was such a flood of oratory and so much time was wasted at the Constitutional Convention that I was not able to leave Albany until after midnight last night to drive to New York and in the process I acquired a cold which has laid me up for a day. Nothing else would have kept me away. I am able to work at home but not to go out this evening. The result is that I have had to ask Mr. McNulty to be kind enough to read this statement to you.

While we are on the subject of the Constitutional Convention, I wish to mention briefly the Grade Crossing Amendment which I have sponsored, and which was unanimously reported by my Committee. You may have noticed that Governor Lehman attacked this amendment on various grounds. It is difficult for me to believe that the Governor wrote the statement himself or that he can be so unacquainted with the facts of the situation. This amendment is of tremendous importance to the people of the Rockaways. It furnishes the only possible means of ridding you of the railroad now running at grade which chokes up all the traffic on your peninsula. It constitutes a hazard to life and limb and prevents the completion of the Rockaway Improvement program which in other respects is well under way. Like Atlantic Avenue and certain other stubborn grade crossing problems, we can get nowhere as long as we attempt to make the railroads pay 50% of the cost of crossing eliminations and exclude related public improvements. For thirty years committees have been agitating for the depression of the Atlantic Avenue tracks. For a very long period the Rockaway elimination has been discussed, argued and kicked around. You have been promised over and

over again that this problem will be solved. One of the big arguments for the passage of the 1925 grade crossing amendment was that you would be taken care of. The same argument was made in 1927. Instead, you have been given the privilege, by your contributions to the State, of paying for upstate eliminations without getting anything for your own harrassed community. I was one of the authors of the 1925 and 1927 amendments which were sponsored by Governor Smith. I have an acquaintance with the grade crossing problem considerably longer than Governor Lehman's. As a banker, Governor Lehman knows quite well that the railroads cannot capitalize grade crossing eliminations. He knows that in the case of the Rockaway elimination, a railroad is being asked to improve a section which the city is about to take over for rapid transit purposes, and that as a practical matter you won't get to first base excepting through an amendment such as the one I have proposed which will insure the beginning of work next spring and the rapid and early completion of this vital improvement. Governor Lehman says that a large part of the cost should be borne by the locality. I ask why this is so? By segregating fifty million dollars for the completion of eliminations in New York City every existing crossing at grade within city limits can be cleaned up in two years. The alternative proposed by the Governor is another thirty years of discussion. I want to be quite definite about this. If you expect action on the Rockaway elimination, you had better tell your local representatives in the Constitutional Convention what you want done about it. This will mean a whole lot more to you than endless hot air and gas about search and seizure. I assume that your community and the millions who visit it are more concerned to get the railroad tracks off the ground at Rockaway than you are to have the time of the Convention eaten up with Fourth of July orations about the Barons of Runnymede, the soldiers in the snow

at Valley Forge, the Battle of Saratoga and the rights of gangsters to be free from undue interference from the police.

I have stressed the importance of the Rockaway grade elimination because it is right at the head of the calendar at Albany and because without it the rest of the Rockaway Improvement Plan can never be wholly successful.

What's the trouble with Rockaway? Sometimes an outsider with a fresh point of view can analyze these things better than the local people who are too close to the problem to see it in prospective, and who have become discouraged after years of more or less futile efforts. This barrier beach is no different than scores of others in the metropolitan district and elsewhere. It is narrow, and in the summer season terribly congested. Selfishness, bad planning and bad judgment have contributed toward a poor development which made money for some people for a while, and ended in trouble for everyone. The boardwalk, following the pattern of other American communities was built too close to the water so as to conserve space for private exploitation back of it. Expensive jetties became necessary to prevent erosion. All sorts of haphazard and undesirable developments grew up back of the boardwalk. Some of the frontage developed into a seaside slum with shacks, tent colonies, and the most flimsy gadgets and amusements. Some of it was developed more sensibly, but the good was corrupted by the bad. The streets on the peninsula were laid out on the old gridiron pattern. There were inadequate east and west arteries. There were inadequate approaches from the mainland and to cap the climax the railroad running at grade, choked up and piled up the traffic crossing from north to south. As usual, entirely too much space was zoned for business. Tremendous fire hazards were created. Scores of laws and city ordinances were violated, involving the health and safety of the

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communities and of visitors. No particular conspiracy brought this about. It happened gradually like most cases of lowering of standards. Too many people were interested in cashing in and getting out, and too many did not look beyond the day or at most the season.

What was the answer? There could be only one - official municipal intervention to save the peninsula and prevent a collapse. I am a conservative in government matters, and I do not believe in extending the functions of government beyond normal and proper limits. When however, a community of such vital interest as this one to the whole city, gets snarled up and begins to deteriorate, the problem cannot be solved by private individuals or groups, although their support is necessary to a proper solution.

The Park Department analyzed this problem, although it affected many other agencies of the city government and even the state. We sought a practical means of attacking it. Only limited funds were available and we therefore had to tap private investment, setting up some sort of tolls to pay at least part of the bill. The plan, with which you are all familiar, and on which we are working, is no complete solution of your problem, but it will go a long way toward solving it. We are widening the bottlenecks on the Cross Bay Boulevard. We are cleaning up a mile and a half of beach back of the boardwalk, by tearing down all buildings. We are furnishing you with a parkway back of the beach and with play and other facilities there. We are financing a large part of the cost by combining the very successful Henry Hudson Bridge, the Marine Parkway Bridge and the Cross Bay Bridge into one Authority financed largely by a ten cent toll for pleasure vehicles. The city is paying for part of the land, but none of the construction. There are no local assessments. We are attacking the grade crossing problem. We have built a fine new causeway from Marine Park, Brooklyn, connecting with the

completely reconstructed and amplified Jacob Riis Park. We are about to attack the problem of preserving Jamaica Bay and the frontage on it for recreation and residence. We are presenting as graphically as we can, the destruction which will result from garbage dumping in the bay, from the pollution of its waters by sewage, and from stubborn and stupid persistence in the old plan for a tremendous industrial development in this area. Don't make any mistake about it! Your interests lie not only on the Rockaway Peninsula but in the bay back of it, which constitutes one of the greatest remaining natural resources of the metropolis.

Now, we have had our differences about plan and procedure. There have no doubt been times when you have thought we were unreasonable and arbitrary, but I know of no way of accomplishing great improvements of this kind, in a reasonable time and while we still have the authority, other than the way we have adopted. The difficulties of accomplishing anything on a large scale in New York City are enormous. The best evidence of this lies in the number of unsolved problems. We have always had plenty of people to think up plans and to put them on paper. We have always had plenty of diplomats who believe that it could be done with mirrors, sleight of hands, and honeyed words. We have had plenty of politicians to gull the people with promises. When however, it comes to action and getting things financed and accomplished, none of these people are visible. I know of no way of making progress without inconveniencing a considerable number of people. We try to reduce this inconvenience to a minimum. We don't look for trouble, but if it appears we meet it. At the start, we fix a date for the completion of our work, and we let nothing interfere with meeting it. We believe we are on the right track in this case and that when we have completed the Rockaway Improvement you will be satisfied that it has been done well. I hope

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within the future it will be carried considerably further. In the
meantime, we report progress.

ROBERT MOSES,
Commissioner.

The Department of Parks announces that in anticipation of the closing of schools and hotter summer weather, as well as extreme heat spells which will cause persons to seek relief in parks, forty lawn areas with shade trees have been set aside in Central Park for passive recreation.

These lawn areas comprising 140 acres are located along the East and West Drives opposite entrances on both Fifth Avenue and Central Park West, as well as in the section immediately north of the reservoir. They have been arranged in pairs of approximate equal area and will be rotated weekly and more often if necessary, so that while one is closed to recover from usage, the other will be available.

Areas open to the public will be properly posted with signs reading:

This Lawn Open For Passive Use
Please Place Litter In Baskets

and those closed will have signs reading:

This Lawn Closed
Keep Off

Passive use includes sitting or lying on the grass. No active games such as baseball, or running, jumping, wrestling, etc., will be permitted on lawn areas. Those who do not wish to sit on the bare grass, must bring with them cushions, blankets, or other articles, as newspapers may not be used for this purpose.

The police authorities are being furnished with a plan so that they will be familiar with the location and operation of the areas.

The rotation and free use of these areas by the general public will start immediately.

The Department of Parks announced this afternoon the establishment of locations where fishing from park shore fronts in Manhattan will be permitted. There are three such locations:

On the point which juts out into the Hudson River under the George Washington Bridge; the northerly shore of Inwood Hill Park; and the outer end of the recreation pier in the Harlem River at 107th Street.

After consultation with the Department of Health, it was determined that it is not safe to permit fishing along the shore of Riverside Park from 72nd to 125th Streets. The waters along this shore are heavily polluted with sewage and the Department of Health has traced typhoid fever to the handling of articles coming out of such waters. The following is quoted from the opinion received from the Department of Health:

"The waters of the Hudson River are considered by this Department as polluted and in the prohibited area for bathing purposes.

It must be borne in mind that individuals fishing in these waters could easily have their hands contaminated by handling fish and fishing paraphernalia, and through this channel transmit infection from the polluted waters to themselves. As you know, typhoid fever may be a hand to mouth disease. We have had at least one case in recent years in which all the epidemiological evidence pointed to fishing in polluted waters as the most likely source of infection."

Although the waters adjacent to the three fishing areas designated above are not safe for bathing, the Health authorities do not feel that they are so heavily polluted that fishing in them would be particularly dangerous.

Signs have been erected in Riverside Park prohibiting fishing along the newly constructed promenades, and the areas where fishing is permitted in Ft. Washington and Inwood Hill Parks have been designated with signs.

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JUNE 23, 1938

DANCE FESTIVAL

The Department of Parks announces that on Sunday, June 26 at 2:30 P.M., the Bronx Recreation Division, Department of Parks, will present a dance festival called "The Pageant of Flowers" at Williamsbridge Playground, Bainbridge Avenue and 208 Street. Over four hundred children representing various park playgrounds throughout the Bronx, will participate.

The festival includes nine group dances, namely, a Boys' Dance, performed by the children from Teasdale, Melrose and Mullaly Playgrounds, Farmer's Dance from Crotona Playgrounds, Storm and Sun Dance from Fort No. 4 and St. James Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs representing eight playgrounds and flower dances of Daisies, Roses, Blue Bells, Daffodils and Garlands from Mullaly, 166th Street, St. Mary's, Echo, Lyons Square, Cauldwell Avenue, Williamsbridge, Ciccarone and Zimmerman Playgrounds respectively.

A large dance festival is an annual event in the Bronx Recreation Division, Department of Parks, and is the result of a cultural program, including dancing, costuming and flower making, which is conducted in the playgrounds.

The pageant is composed mainly of character and aesthetic dances, and this year the beautiful lawn at Williamsbridge will provide a perfect background for this large number of children. They will be dressed in colorful floral costumes, and it is planned to have the pageant more spectacular and effective than in preceding years.

June 23, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces that 360 playground girls will participate in the city wide folk dance contest on the Mall, Central Park, Saturday, June 25th at 2:30 P.M.

Each borough conducted preliminary contests in which the children of various playgrounds competed for the honor of representing their borough in the city wide exhibition of dancing scheduled for the Mall this evening Saturday.

There will be three different age groups; 10 - 12 years; 12 - 14 years; 14 - 16 years; and each borough will enter its prize winning folk dancers in each of the age group classifications. With 24 girls to every folk dance, it is expected that about 360 children, appropriately costumed, will exhibit the precision and coordination of the gay folk dances which will include the favorites of many lands.

The Park Department Band will render selections during intervals of the performance.

Judges of the contest will be: Maude Whitehead, Savage School of Physical Education; Madame Serova, Hubbell - Serova Training School of Dance; Grace J. Hoffman.

The list of dances and the playgrounds represented are as follows:

<u>10 - 12 years</u>		
1. Polish Polka	Chisholm Playground	Queens
2. Spanish Dance	New Lots & Riverdale Aves. Plgd .	Brooklyn
3. The Krazy Kat Dance	Roosevelt Playground	Manhattan
4. Irish Lilt	Model Playground	Richmond
5. "Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs"	Mullaly, Williamsbridge, St. Mary's East, St. James, Zimmerman Plgds.	Bronx
<u>12 - 14 years</u>		
1. American Country Dance "Pop Goes the Weasel"	Jackson Heights	Queens
2. Lubka - Hungarian Dance	Betsy Head & Clarkson Ave. Plgd.	Brooklyn
3. Nyitra - Hungarian Dance	J. Hood Wright Playground	Manhattan
4. Minuet	Crescent Avenue Playground	Richmond
5. The Dance of the Daffodils	Williamsbridge Playground	Bronx

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

*For Release*_____

14 - 16 years

1. "Danish Dance for Four"	O'Connell Playground	Queens
2. Danish Dance	Kelly Memorial Playground	Brooklyn
3. Hawaiian Dance	Harlem Housing Playground	Manhattan
4. Mexican Hat Dance	McDonald Playground	Richmond
5. The Garland Dance	Zimmerman & Ciccarone Plgds.	Bronx

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JUNE 22, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

757
For Release _____

IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that bids were taken this morning for the construction of a new bathhouse at the Betsy Head Pool at Hopkinson Avenue between Livonia and Dumont Avenues, Brooklyn. This is the site of one of the modern swimming pools operated by the Department of Parks. In 1936, the old existing swimming pool was reconstructed and a diving pool and a filter house constructed, but the bathers were forced to use an old outmoded bathhouse. Last year, this old bathhouse was destroyed by fire, and the new one will replace this.

The new bathhouse is an entirely new structure with all the latest facilities for pool patrons and is designed to accommodate 6,000 bathers. It consists of two wings, one containing dressing rooms, showers, toilet facilities, etc., for men, and the other containing the same facilities for women. The wings are divided by an entrance lobby, which will contain ticket booths and control stations. The building is so constructed that it will be used during the winter months for indoor recreation and is large enough to permit the layout of a full size basketball court in each wing.

The structure is a combination of Colonial white brick piers with glass brick panels and black serpentine marble trim and was designed by John Matthews Hatton, Architect, who was a prize winner in the Pittsburgh Glass Institute competition for the use of glass in the design of the Astoria Pool. The roof design is a new departure in that it is a built-up bleacher section from which spectators can watch the pool activities. A decorative canopy, constructed on the cantilever principle, permits a clear view from all seats.

The low bidders on the general construction were:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Lane Engineering Corporation | 234,682.00 |
| 2. Skolnick Building Corporation | 240,540.00 |
| 3. Albert A. Lutz Company, Inc. | 243,450.00 |

The low bidders on the heating and ventilating work were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Jacobs Engineering Corporation | 24,746.00 |
| 2. Daniel J. Rice, Inc. | 25,877.00 |
| 3. Soling Heating & Cooling Co., Inc. | 25,945.00 |

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

*For Release*_____

- 2 -

The low bidders on the plumbing work were:

1. Astroze Plumbing and Heating Corporation	\$22,279.00
2. Fox Plumbing Company, Inc.	22,754.00
3. Jesse E. Kahn	23,624.00

The low bidders on the electrical work were:

1. J. & N. Hoffman	13,000.00
2. Arc Electric Construction Co., Inc.	14,162.00
3. Supremo Electric Equipment, Inc.	14,600.00

The total engineer's estimate ~~300~~ 300,000.00

Awards will be made so that construction of the new bathhouse will begin early in July. Construction will be carried on without hindrance to the use of the pool.

June 21, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

756
For Release

Saturday P.M.
and Sunday

The Department of Parks announces that plans for a contract for improvements to the dilapidated Isaac L. Rice Memorial in Pelham Bay Park were approved on Thursday, June 16th by the Board of Estimate. The following are the three low bidders for the improvements:

B. J. Kearns, Inc. 2254 Sedgwick Ave., Bronx, N.Y.	\$43,420.70
Madden & Lane, Inc. 42-16 Vernon Boulevard, L.I.C.	\$46,391.10
Highbridge Concrete Corp. W. 169 St. & Harlem River, N.Y.C.	\$49,066.00

The Engineer's estimate was \$55,000.00.

The work provides for the demolition of the existing swimming pool and the concrete bleachers and steps to the north of the pool; the construction of walks, one regulation baseball diamond and one soft ball diamond both with backstops, ten reinforced concrete paved tennis courts and the grading and topsoiling of a large athletic field and other incidental work.

The Rice development in the southerly section of Pelham Bay Park was inherited by the present Park Department in 1934 and was constructed by the Rice family as a gift to the City of New York in memory of their father. It was inadequately designed and constructed with no regard for maintenance problems. The swimming pool was never fit for public use and would not hold water. The stadium was never satisfactory and the cost of reconstructing it would be almost as much as the cost of a new structure of equivalent capacity.

Plans are now before the Board of Estimate for the alteration and renovation of the natatorium building. The plans call for the installation of a new heating plant, new ventilators, additional steel lockers, repairs to electrical and plumbing equipment and painting. The Engineer's estimate for this work is \$10,000.

These improvements will provide much needed adequate recreation facilities in an outmoded area.

June 18, 1938.

Library

For Release IMMEDIATELY

755

The Department of Parks announces that an interesting statue depicting famed characters of the Mother Goose series of fairy tales, has been erected in the circle at the entrance to the Mary Harriman Rumsey children's playground in Central Park, Manhattan, formerly the site of the old Casino.

The statue consists of a large figure of the witch who is astride the goose's back; then on the east and west sides in bas-relief there are figures of Humpty Dumpty, Old King Cole; Little Jack Horner, Mother Hubbard, and Mary and Her Little Lamb.

This amusing piece of statuary was carved out of a thirteen ton piece of Westerly Granite by W. P. A. craftsmen, working under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. It was conceived and designed by Frederick G. Roth, who also designed and executed the carved group of "Alice in Wonderland" characters in the Sophie Irene Loeb Memorial erected in the Heckscher Playground in 1936.

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JUNE 17, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release IMMEDIATELY

754

The Department of Parks announces that on Saturday, June 18, a number of special festivals will be held in several playgrounds in Manhattan. One of the special events taking place is a play entitled, "Princess Tenderheart" which will be held at the Lillian D. Wald Playground, Cherry, Monroe & Gouverneur Streets at 2 P.M. Other plays entitled, "What Time Is It?", "Marjorie's Garden", and "The Chinese Nightingale" will be given at Mount Morris Playground, 120 Street and Madison Avenue; Fort Tryon Playground, Broadway and Dyckman Street and McCray Playground, 138 Street between Fifth and Lenox Avenues, at 3 P.M.

A children's pet show has been arranged for the playground located at Lewis & Rivington Street, and a Chinese festival at 2:30 P.M. at Columbus Park.

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JUNE 17, 1938

Library

For Release IMMEDIATELY

753

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the Junior Musical Instrument Contest will be held on The Mall, Central Park, Sunday, June 19 at 2:30 P. M.

Any child living in New York City who was an amateur musician and had not reached his seventeenth birthday was eligible to compete in the preliminary playground and district eliminations held prior to the borough finals. The contestants were divided according to the following age groups: Sixth to ninth year; tenth to thirteenth year; fourteenth to sixteenth year. From these groups, the seven most talented musicians were selected to represent the boroughs at the finals. Each contestant will be permitted one solo to be completed within five minutes. In the eliminations, 500 children competed.

The judges of the contest will be Miss Frederique Petrides, Conductor of the Orchestrette Classique, Mr. Herman Katims, concert pianist, Mr. Arthur Cremin, Director of the New York School of Music, and Miss Annette Walker, Director of the Children's Art Theatre.

June 16, 1938.

752

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that an archery demonstration and tournament will take place at Alley Pond Park, Queens, on Saturday, June 11, at 2 P.M.

In connection with this tournament there will be a demonstration by Miss Myrtle Miller, International Archery Champion and Carl Weese, New Jersey State Champion. Other leading archers who will perform and take part in the archery demonstration and tournament are Miss Dorothy Duggan, Metropolitan archery champion and Mr. William Jackson and Harold Hill, champions of New Jersey.

The New York Archers have been cooperating with the Department of Parks in staging this archery demonstration and tournament.

Medals will be awarded by the Park Department to the winners of this tournament.

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JUNE 10, 1938

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Library

751
For Release IMMEDIATELY

"FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FOR DREDGING
OF FLUSHING BAY INCREASED TO \$699,000.00"

THE SECOND DEFICIENCY BILL PASSED TODAY BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE CARRIES AN ITEM FOR FURTHER CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS IN FLUSHING BAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLAN SUBMITTED BY THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS. THIS INCREASES TO \$699,000. THE FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FOR DREDGING THE BAY.

UNDER THE NEW APPROPRIATION THE ARMY ENGINEERS WILL DREDGE A NEW CONNECTING CHANNEL 150 FEET WIDE AND 6 FEET DEEP ALONG THE GRAND CENTRAL PARKWAY SEA WALL BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL BOAT BASINS AT JACKSON'S CREEK AND FLUSHING MEADOW. THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT WILL COST \$194,000. AND IS IN ADDITION TO THE \$505,000. FEDERAL PROJECT NOW UNDER WAY WHICH PROVIDES FOR DEEPENING THE EXISTING MAIN CHANNEL ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF FLUSHING BAY TO 12 FEET BELOW MEAN LOW WATER AND DREDGING A TURNING BASIN IN FRONT OF FLUSHING MEADOW BOAT BASIN. THIS PART OF THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED THIS SUMMER.

THE NEW CONNECTING CHANNEL WILL BE CONSTRUCTED THIS FALL AND WILL COMPLETE THE REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FLUSHING BAY AS AN OUTSTANDING BOAT HARBOR. IT WILL FILL THE GAP IN THE PROPOSED CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROUTE AROUND THE BAY AND AID GREATLY IN THE CIRCULATION OF TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF THE BAY. UNDER THE PLAN, SHALLOW DRAFT BOATS WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE CONNECTING CHANNEL, RESERVING THE MAIN 12-FOOT CHANNEL FOR COMMERCIAL BOATS, EXCURSION CRAFT AND OTHER LARGE DRAFT VESSELS DURING PERIODS OF CONGESTION.

JUNE 15, 1938.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

750
For Release _____

IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that Joyce Kilmer night of the Gaelic Musical Society of America will be held on The Mall, Central Park, on Tuesday, June 14 at 8:30 P. M.

The New York State Symphonic Band of the W. P. A. Federal Music Project conducted by Giuseppe Creatore will play at that time. The speakers on the program will be Honorable William Griffin, Reverend John B. Kelly and Commander Paul A. Williams.

Attached is a copy of the musical program.

Dated: June 13, 1938.

Joyce Kilmer Night
of the
GAELIC MUSICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Central Park Mall

Flag Day, Tuesday evening, June 14th
8:30 o'clock

Dr. James J. Walsh Chairman
Edward J. Walsh Executive Director
Judge William O'Dwyer Festival Director

NEW YORK STATE SYMPHONIC BAND
Giuseppe Creatore, Conductor

PROGRAM

March	"Stars and Stripes"	John Philip Sousa
Introductory Remarks		Hon. William Griffin
Invocation (In Song)	"The Prayer Perfect"	Nicholas Farley
PANAMERICANA		Victor Herbert
The Post of the Trees		Rev. John Bernard Kelly, Catholic Writers Guild of America
Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest		Commander Paul A. Williams Bozeman Bulger Post, V.F.W.
Vocal	"Sleep Soldier Boy" (Dedicated to Joyce Kilmer) Norman J. Carey, Veterans of Foreign Wars of U. S.	
Gaelic Fantasia	"Reminiscences of Scotland" Vocal-A Hundred Pipers March Medley-CLAN EIREANN PIPERS BAND Pipe-Major James McHugh	Godfrey

I N T E R M I S S I O N

Irish Caprice	"Fond Memories of Innisfail"	Giuseppe Creatore
Vocal Solo	"Trees" (Joyce Kilmer)	Nicholas Farley
Tribute to Joyce Kilmer		
Festival March	Vocal - The Minstrel Boy	Victor Herbert
Keltic Lament		Foulds
Vocal Solo	"The Trumpeter" Norman J. Carey, V.P.W.	
American Fantasia		Victor Herbert

"Star Spangled Banner"

T A P S

Bugler John McGrory, Big Six Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Program presented by the Gaelic Musical Society of America in co-operation with the W.F.A. Federal Music Project and broadcast over Station WNYC.

The Department of Parks announces that ceremonies in connection with the completion of the redesign and reconstruction of Cooper Park, Fourth Avenue and East 7th Street, Manhattan, will be held on Thursday, June 9th, at 2:30 P. M.

Historical significance is given to the area as Abraham Lincoln made his first political speech here in 1860 after being nominated for President of the United States.

Old type business buildings comprise the immediate neighborhood and buildings of the Cooper Union Institute lie directly north and east.

In the reconstruction, the old dilapidated, unsanitary, underground comfort station has been eliminated; new exterior concrete walks constructed; 17 new trees planted and the fence enclosing the area repaired and painted.

At the north end on the base of the triangular plot is a memorial monument, consisting of a bearded figure of Peter Cooper, American inventor, manufacturer and philanthropist, seated in a massive bronze chair standing on a white marble pedestal. The statue stands beneath a heavy marble canopy supported by Ionic granite columns and was erected by the citizens of New York in grateful remembrance of Peter Cooper, founder of the Cooper Union for the advancement of science and art.

Mr. Gano Dunn, President of Cooper Union, J. Charles Riedel, Deputy Chief Engineer of the Board of Estimate and a graduate of Cooper Union, and Stanley F. Howe, Executive Secretary to the Mayor, will participate in the exercises. Commissioner Robert Moses will preside as Chairman.

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PARK DEPARTMENT PLAYGROUND TRACK AND FIELD MEET

The Department of Parks announces that the Annual City-Wide Athletic Meet for boys and girls of Park Department playgrounds will take place at Randall's Island Stadium, Saturday, June 11th, at 1:00 P.M.

During the month of May, each playground held preliminary contests and practice sessions in preparation for the borough-wide meet which was conducted in each of the five boroughs. The five who qualified in the finals of the 18 track and field events of the various borough meets are eligible to compete at the City-Wide Meet on Saturday.

It is expected that about 500 boys and girls of various classifications, ranging from the 85 lb. class to the unlimited class, will participate in the meet at Randall's Island.

All the competitors have demonstrated their superior athletic ability by qualifying in the various borough meets. In addition, they have been thoroughly trained in the fine points of dashing, long distance running, baton passing, broad jumping and high jumping.

With this background of experience and preparation, the expected large crowd of spectators, anxious to have their native borough boys and girls carry off the palm of victory, can look forward to a day full of surprises and keen competition.

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to those who finish first, second and third in each event.

The list of events for the City-Wide Playground Meet on Saturday, June 11th, at Randall's Island Stadium, is as follows:

EVENTS

BOYS

<u>85 lb. Class</u>	<u>100 lb. Class</u>	<u>120 lb. Class</u>	<u>Unlimited Class</u>
50 Yd. Dash	60 Yd. Dash	70 Yd. Dash	100 Yd. Dash
Potato Race	Standing Broad Jump	Running High Jump	Half Mile
	220 Yd. Relay	440 Yd. Relay	880 Yd. Relay

GIRLS

<u>85 lb. Class</u>	<u>110 lb. Class</u>	<u>Unlimited Class</u>
40 Yd. Dash	50 Yd. Dash	60 Yd. Dash
Egg & Spoon Race	Basketball Throw	
Potato Race	for distance	

UNLIMITED - OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE

Senior Boys & Girls Mixed Relay - 400 Yard
2 Girls to run 55 yards each.
1 Boy to run 110 yards.
1 Boy to run 220 yards.

As an added attraction, three groups of sixty children from playgrounds in the Boroughs of Bronx, Manhattan and Queens will give dancing performances during intervals of the meet.

The Park Department Band will provide music both for the meet and the dancing.

June 10 1938

The Department of Parks announces that the "Learn to Swim" campaign will commence on Saturday, June 11th at both the outdoor and indoor swimming pools under its jurisdiction and also at the pools of various organizations which have expressed intentions of conducting a similar campaign. This crusade to assist all who are desirous of learning how to swim will continue until Saturday, June 25th.

The list of Park Department swimming pools which will be available for the people of New York City during the "Learn to Swim" Campaign is as follows:

SWIMMING POOLS
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS

	<u>Pool</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>MANHATTAN</u>	Hamilton Fish Pool	East Houston & Sheriff Streets
	Colonial Pool	Bradhurst Ave., W. 145th to 147th Streets
	Highbridge Pool	Amsterdam Ave. & W. 173rd Street.
	Thomas Jefferson Pool	111th to 114th Streets & First Ave.
<u>BROOKLYN</u>	Sunset Pool	7th Ave. & 43rd Street
	McGarren Pool	Nassau Ave. & Lorimer Street
	Red Hook Pool	Clinton, Bay & Henry Streets
	Betsy Head	Hopkinson, Dumont & Livonia Avenues
<u>BRONX</u>	Crotona Pool	173rd St. & Fulton Avenue
<u>QUEENS</u>	Astoria Pool	Barclay Street & 24th Drive
<u>RICHMOND</u>	Faber Pool	Faber St. bet. Richmond Terrace & Kill Van Kull
	Tompkinsville Pool	Arrietta Street at Pier #6

INDOOR SWIMMING POOLS

<u>MANHATTAN</u>	407 West 28th Street	Clarkson & 7th Avenues
	5 Rutgers Place	328 Rivington Street
		342 East 54th Street
<u>BROOKLYN</u>	Metropolitan and Bedford Avenues	

Hours of instruction at Park Department Pools during the campaign are as follows:

OUTDOOR POOLS

Children	10:30 - 11:30 A.M. daily
Children	2:00 - 3:00 P.M. "
Adults	5:00 - 6:00 P.M. "

INDOOR POOLS

Children	2:00 - 4:00 P.M. daily
Adults	7:30 - 8:30 P.M. "

The Board of Education will have the swimming pool at Seward Park High School located at Essex, Grand and Ludlow Streets, available for free instructions in swimming from 7:30 P. M. to 10:30 P.M. during the entire campaign. In the other school swimming pools, the Board of Education will give instruction to pupils of the respective schools.

The organizations cooperating with the Department of Parks in the "Learn to Swim" Campaign are as follows:

Greenwich House, Y.M.C.A. (West Side Branch,) Harlem Branch, 23rd Street Branch, Camp Fire Girls, Educational Alliance, Women's Swimming Association, Kips Bay Boys Club & Yorkville District, School Health Committee, Y.W.H.A., Y.M.H.A., Manhattan Council of Girl Scouts, Christodora House, Chelsea Association for Planning & Action, Boy Scouts of America, Juvenile Aid Bureau, Police Department, P.S.D.L. - Board of Education, American Red Cross, Police Athletic League, Children's Aid Society, Board of Education - Bureau of Recreation & Community Activities, College of the City of New York, New York University, and Catholic Youth Organization.

June 10th, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

IMMEDIATELY

746A

For Release

The Department of Parks announces that the George Cromwell Recreation Center located on Pier 6, Tompkinsville, Staten Island, officially transferred from the office of the Borough President of Richmond to the Park Department on May 1st, will continue to operate as a recreation facility for the general public for which it was originally planned and constructed.

The periods of operation will be determined according to usage and demand. Past experience has proven that it is not economically worth while for the City to retain an operating staff in an indoor recreation establishment of this kind during the summer season. Active recreational use of the pier will be resumed immediately after Labor Day under the supervision of competent recreation directors. The pier will be available for use under permit by organizations for dances and other group activities as it has been during the past two years. Applications for permits for activities of this kind should be made to the borough office, Field House, Clove Lakes Park, Victory Boulevard and Clove Road, West Brighton, Staten Island.

The main hall in the center of the first floor of the pier will be arranged for active recreation in the form of basketball, badminton, volleyball, paddle tennis, shuffleboard, quoits, group games, handball, indoor tennis, gymnastics and track events, with a small section set aside for quiet games such as checkers, chess, camolot, psychic baseball, carrom games, jack stones, lotto and domino. The concession will continue operation in its present location on the first floor and the Administrative Office of the Supervisor will also be on this floor.

The second floor will be set aside for the accommodation of the various veterans organizations, some of which are at present on the first floor. The second floor also will contain a single large room available on application to the borough headquarters, for general use of any organization desiring to use it.

On Thursday nights, social dancing held during fall, winter and spring months at Pier 6, will be held during the summer on the Marine roof of the Tompkinsville Swimming Pool. In case of inclement weather, the dancing will be held on the lower floor of George Cromwell Recreation Center.

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JUNE 10, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

7046 IMMEDIATELY

For Release _____

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JUNE 10, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

745
745
For Release _____

IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that the portion of the Motor Parkway from Horace Harding Boulevard to the City line at Nassau County, was officially placed under its jurisdiction by action of the Board of Estimate on June 9th.

Work will start immediately on installing guard rails, directional signs and a turn-around in Alley Pond Park, to convert this out-moded vehicular road into a two and one-half mile bicycle path operating from 8 A. M. until dark. The new facility will open on July 2nd.

Racks for parking bicycles will be provided at the Alley Pond fieldhouse and also at the Alley Pond picnic area. A shop will be installed at the fieldhouse so that those not owning bicycles and desirous of using the facility, may rent them, and those arriving in cars may park them in the existing parking space.

The path will be operated by uniformed park attendants and patrolled by mounted police.

June 10, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

744

744

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that an archery demonstration and tournament will take place at Alley Pond Park, Queens, on Saturday, June 11, at 2 P.M.

In connection with this tournament there will be a demonstration by Miss Myrtle Miller, International Archery Champion and Carl Weese, New Jersey State Champion. Other leading archers who will perform and take part in the archery demonstration and tournament are Miss Dorothy Duggan, Metropolitan archery champion and Mr. William Jackson and Harold Hill, champions of New Jersey.

The New York Archers have been cooperating with the Department of Parks in staging this archery demonstration and tournament.

Medals will be awarded by the Park Department to the winners of this tournament.

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JUNE 10, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

7437
IMMEDIATELY
For Release

The Department of Parks announces that ceremonies in connection with the completion of the redesign and reconstruction of Cooper Park, Fourth Avenue and East 7th Street, Manhattan, will be held on Thursday, June 9th, at 2:30 P. M.

Historical significance is given to the area as Abraham Lincoln made his first political speech here in 1860 after being nominated for President of the United States.

Old type business buildings comprise the immediate neighborhood and buildings of the Cooper Union Institute lie directly north and east.

In the reconstruction, the old dilapidated, unsanitary, underground comfort station has been eliminated; new exterior concrete walks constructed; 17 new trees planted and the fence enclosing the area repaired and painted.

At the north end on the base of the triangular plot is a memorial monument, consisting of a bearded figure of Peter Cooper, American inventor, manufacturer and philanthropist, seated in a massive bronze chair standing on a white marble pedestal. The statue stands beneath a heavy marble canopy supported by Ionic granite columns and was erected by the citizens of New York in grateful remembrance of Peter Cooper, founder of the Cooper Union for the advancement of science and art.

Mr. Gano Dunn, President of Cooper Union, J. Charles Riedel, Deputy Chief Engineer of the Board of Estimate and a graduate of Cooper Union, and Stanley H. Howe, Executive Secretary to the Mayor, will participate in the exercises. Commissioner Robert Moses will preside as Chairman.

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JUNE 8, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

743

IMMEDIATELY

743

For Release

The Department of Parks announces that The Bronx Playgrounds Operetta Club, composed of a group of ambitious playground youngsters, will present Gilbert & Sullivan's popular and tuneful operetta "The Mikado", at The Mall, Central Park, Friday, June 10th, 8:30 P.M. A capacity audience is expected to attend this performance to hear these talented youngsters.

Two performances were given at the Mullaly Recreation Building, May 20th and 21st. More than six hundred persons were turned away the first night. The youngsters made such an excellent showing it was decided to give a performance at The Mall, June 10th, at the Music Grove, Forest Park, Queens, June 25th and there is a possibility of a performance at Randall's Island.

Several months ago a group of youngsters from the park playgrounds started to rehearse for a thirty minute condensed version of the first act of "The Mikado" to be given over Station WNYC, March 19th. The youngsters were so enthused over the broadcast that it was decided to organize the group as an operetta club and give the entire show on two evenings during May. This proved to be a very successful affair. The group will start rehearsal in the fall to produce two new shows, one during the winter and the other early in May. The average age of the cast is about 15 to 16 years. Considering that the entire cast of forty-five have only been together a few months, great progress has been made. This is part of the cultural (arts and crafts, music, dramatics and dancing) program encouraged and sponsored by the Department of Parks. The entire production is directed, staged and costumed by The Bronx Recreation Division. Those taking the principal characters are:

Nanki Pooch
Pish Tush
Pooch Bah
Koko
Yum Yum
Pitti Sing
Peep Bo
Katisha
The Mikado
Umbrella Carrier

Andrew Duric
Lawrence Rosenthal
Morris Gershonwitz
Charles Fromed
Lena Rogoff
Beverly Auorbach
Alice Steigerwald
Sarah Post
Stanley Simons
Raymond Fremed

Ensemble

Nobles and Guards:- Richard Anderson; Irving Ehrenreich; Myron Gritzhandler;
George Jower; Marvin Mendelowitz; Mortimer Natkins; Seymour Potolsky;
Seymour Schlessinger; Stanley Sherman.

Coolies:- Abe Austrach; Theodore Bartsch; Milton Fagin; Alvin Gomeran;
Joseph Camhi; Charles Pinkham; Louis Pollock.

School Girls:- Nita Berkowitz; Valeria Carpi; Evelyn Charles; Stell Camhi;
Gertrude Crosby; Pearl Gluck; Sandra Gritzhandler; Sylvia Hauser;
Irene Havas; Frieda Havas; Helen Kalfakis; Pearl Mendelowitz;
Sara Spiro; Florence Tumarkin; Harriet Wox and Madeline Zetena.

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JUNE 8, 1938

Library

742

742

IMMEDIATELY
For Release

The Department of Parks announces that "The Portable Farm Yard" on wheels towed by a Park Department truck will again visit many playgrounds throughout the Park system starting June 9th.

This model farm exhibit will remain in each play area for a period of three days during the course of the summer.

No longer do City dwellers and especially the under-privileged children of the congested districts have to travel to the country to see and enjoy real domestic animals which are common to the children of rural districts.

This miniature farm yard will contain a barn for housing animals and an adjacent area enclosed with a white wooden farm fence where the animals can move around.

Through the courtesy of Bordens Milk Company, a cow and a calf will again be a featured attraction. In addition, there will be pigs, ducks, chickens, chicks, turkeys and pigeons.

The first showing of "The Portable Farm Yard" will be at the Roosevelt Playground, Chrystie & Forsythe Streets, on Thursday, June 9th. After two days it will move to Corlears Hook Park, South Street, foot of Jackson Street.

The playground children will be informed by their directors of the time the farm yard will visit the respective playgrounds.

Attached is a schedule of June and July dates and locations of stops.

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JUNE 8, 1938

(ATTACH.)

PORTABLE PARIYARD SCHEDULE

MANHATTAN:

June 9 Roosevelt Playground - Canal to Houston St. & Chrystie St.
" 11 Corlear's Hook " - Jackson & Cherry Streets
" 14 Battery Park - Ft. of Broadway & Battery Place

BRONX:

June 17 Claremont Park - East 170th St. & Clay Avenue
" 20 St. Mary's Park - 149th St. & St. Ann's Avenue
" 23 Crotona Park - Crotona Park East & 173rd Street

BROOKLYN:

June 27 Red Hook Park - Richard & Pioneer Streets
" 30 Dyker Beach Park - 86th Street & 14th Avenue
July 6 Kelly Memorial Plgd. - Avenue S & East 14th Street
" 9 Lincoln Terrace - Rochester & Buffalo Avenue
" 12 Bushwick Playground - Putnam & Knickerbocker Avenues
" 15 Cooper Park - Maspeth Avenue & Sharon Street

QUEENS:

July 18 Anawanda Park - Fairview Avenue & Stanhope Avenue
" 21 Liberty & 173d St. Playground
" 25 Liberty & 102nd St. Playground
" 28 Highland Park - Jamaica Ave. & Elton Street
" 30 Greenhouse - Forest Park

FLUSHING BAY

The United States Senate today passed the Rivers and Harbors bill authorizing further channel improvements in Flushing Bay in accordance with the plan recently submitted by the New York City Department of Parks.

The bill provides for the dredging of a new connecting channel 150 feet wide and 6 feet deep along the Grand Central Parkway sea wall between the municipal boat basins at Jackson's Creek and Flushing Meadow. The proposed improvement is in addition to the federal project now under way which provides for deepening the existing channel to 12 feet below mean low water and dredging a turning basin in front of the Flushing Meadow boat basin. This work is scheduled to be completed this summer.

The new connecting channel will help materially in the rehabilitation and development of Flushing Bay as an outstanding boat harbor. It will fill the gap in the proposed circumferential route around the bay and aid greatly in the circulation of traffic in and out of the bay. Under the plan, shallow draft boats will be diverted to the connecting channel, reserving the main 12-foot channel for commercial boats, excursion craft and other large draft vessels during periods of congestion.

June 8, 1938.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

740 A
For Release ~~IMMEDIATELY~~

The Department of Parks announces that The Bronx Playgrounds Operetta Club, composed of a group of ambitious playground youngsters, will present Gilbert & Sullivan's popular and tuneful operetta "The Mikado", at The Mall, Central Park, Friday, June 10th, 8:30 P.M. A capacity audience is expected to attend this performance to hear these talented youngsters.

Two performances were given at the Mullaly Recreation Building, May 20th and 21st. More than six hundred persons were turned away the first night. The youngsters made such an excellent showing it was decided to give a performance at The Mall, June 10th, at the Music Grove, Forest Park, Queens, June 25th and there is a possibility of a performance at Randall's Island.

Several months ago a group of youngsters from the park playgrounds started to rehearse for a thirty minute condensed version of the first act of "The Mikado" to be given over Station WNYC, March 19th. The youngsters were so enthused over the broadcast that it was decided to organize the group as an operetta club and give the entire show on two evenings during May. This proved to be a very successful affair. The group will start rehearsal in the fall to produce two new shows, one during the winter and the other early in May. The average age of the cast is about 15 to 16 years. Considering that the entire cast of forty-five have only been together a few months, great progress has been made. This is part of the cultural (arts and crafts, music, dramatics and dancing) program encouraged and sponsored by the Department of Parks. The entire production is directed, staged and costumed by The Bronx Recreation Division. Those taking the principal characters are:

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

Nanki Pooch
Pish Tush
Pooch Bah
Koko
Yum Yum
Pitti Sing
Peep Bo
Katisha
The Mikado
Umbrella Carrier

Andrew Durie
Lawrence Rosenthal
Morris Gershenzvit
Charles Fromed
Lona Rogoff
Beverly Auerbach
Alice Steigerwald
Sarah Post
Stanley Simons
Raymond Fremed

Ensemble

Nobles and Guards:- Richard Anderson; Irving Ehrenreich; Myron Gritzhandler;
George Jower; Marvin Mendelowitz; Mortimer Natkins; Seymour Potolsky;
Seymour Schlessinger; Stanley Sherman.

Coolies:- Abe Austrach; Theodore Bartsch; Milton Fagin; Alvin Gomerman;
Joseph Camhi; Charles Pinkham; Louis Polock.

School Girls:- Nita Berkowitz; Valeria Carpi; Evelyn Charles; Stell Camhi;
Gertrude Crosby; Pearl Gluck; Sandra Gritzhandler; Sylvia Hauser;
Irene Havas; Frieda Havas; Helen Kalfakis; Pearl Mendelowitz;
Sara Spiro; Florence Tumarkin; Harriet Wox and Madeline Zetena.

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JUNE 8, 1938

The New York City Parkway Authority received bids today for the demolition of all houses and other structures in the path of the new development along the Rockaway beach front and leading to the Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge. The low bidders were as follows:

Section A	Arthur A. Parker & Harry Barr, City	\$14,980.00
Section B	Cleveland Wrecking Company, Cincinnati, Ohio	12,465.00
Section C	Same Company	6,250.00
Section D	George Forman Demolition Corp., City	9,990.00

The New York City Parkway Authority and the Department of Parks wish to announce that while construction will be steadily progressed throughout the summer, it will not interfere with access to the beach or with the use by the public of the boardwalk and beach areas. Furthermore, the reconstruction of the present Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge will be carried on in such a way that it will not be closed to traffic at any time.

#####

JUNE 6, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that it is cooperating with the Department of Markets in checking up on violators of the regulation of the latter Department prohibiting licensed itinerant peddlers from doing business within 500 feet of any park or parkway, beach, boardwalk, playground, swimming pool, recreation center, or other property or facility under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks.

This regulation had been agreed upon by large licensed operators and the Department of Markets, and is stamped on the back of each license.

Of eight violators reported to the Commissioner of Markets earlier in May, all have had their licenses revoked. Over the Memorial Day weekend, approximately 172 itinerant peddlers - all violators of the stipulated regulation and many of which had no licenses in their possession, were reported by Park Department employees. The disposition of the cases of these violators is still pending.

The Department of Parks is determined to aid Commissioner Morgan of the Department of Markets, in ridding the city of irresponsible licensed itinerant peddlers who frequently violate the regulation affecting park property. These peddlers make unfair competition and take business away from legitimate Park Department licensed concessionaires who provide a revenue to the city.

They are also mainly responsible for much of the unsightly litter at entrances to city parks and in the case of parkways heavily traveled on weekends, peddlers vending their ware slow up traffic, cause congestion and sometimes serious rear end collisions.

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JUNE 3, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
 ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
 TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release _____

On Sunday, June 5th at 2;30 P.M., the Department of Parks will conduct the finals of the One Act Play Contest on the Mall, Central Park.

As a result of the tournament held in each borough the following plays have been selected to represent the boroughs in the finals:

Brooklyn	-	Lindsay Playground "The Wicked Witch"
Manhattan	-	Lewis and Rivington St. Playground "The Stolen Prince"
Bronx	-	Cauldwell Avenue Playground "The Brownie Bush" by Marjorie Barrows from the book "The Pirate of Pooh and other Plays for Children published by Rand McNally & Co.
Queens	-	Upper Highland Park Playground "The Clock Shop"
Richmond	-	Model Playground "The Silver Slipper"

The casts consisting of boys and girls 10 - 16 years of age have been coached by the playground directors.

Mrs. Lionel Sutro, Commissioner Paul Moss, Mr. Frank Francis of the Little Theatre Players and Miss Dorothy Gordon will act as judges of the contest. In judging the plays the following items will be taken into consideration:

Acting	-	60%
Delivery	-	20%
Type of Play	-	10%
Costumes	-	10%

#####

The Department of Parks announces that the discobolus, formerly located in Central Park northwest of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, at Fifth Avenue and 82nd Street, Manhattan, has been removed to Randall's Island.

Relocated as it is now facing the entrance to the Municipal Stadium, the scene of the last Olympic tryouts and other athletic contests as well as the coming I. C. 4 A games June 3 and 4, it has a more fitting and appropriate setting.

This bronze monumental and heroic figure of a discus-thrower is 7 ft. 4 in. high set on a 4 ft. 5 in. polished granite base. It was acquired by the city in 1926 as a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Ery Kehaya and was sculpted by Costos Dimitriadis.

#####

June 2, 1938

V

The Park Department announces that the Animal Naming Contest conducted in Public Schools No. 6, 59 and 76 during the past three weeks has been completed.

Seventeen unnamed animals in the Central Park Zoo were closely observed by hundreds of children as they, accompanied by their teachers, made tours of inspection in preparation for the contest.

Judging by the multiplicity and variety of suggested names that were submitted to the Department of Parks, the contest evoked great enthusiasm and interest among the students.

Some of the names indicated concentrated study of the animals' habits, actions, attitudes, color and form; others, consisted of first names usually given to human beings.

The final tabulation of suggested names submitted by the children of the three schools entered in the contest, resulted in the selection of the following names for the particular animals listed:

<u>ANIMAL</u>		<u>WINNING NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL REPRESENTED</u>
<u>2 Ocelots</u>	- (Male)	Oscar	P. S. 59
			P. S. 6
<u>1 Zebra</u>	- (Female)	Dotty	
	(Male)	Stripey	P. S. 76
<u>2 Giant Anteaters-</u>	(Females)	Anty	P. S. 6
		Snoopy	P. S. 59
<u>1 Baboon</u>	- (Male)	Sleepy	P. S. 76
<u>2 Arabian Goats</u>	- (Male)	Arabo	P. S. 59
	(Female)	Arabette	P. S. 59
<u>3 Red Deer</u>	- (Male)	Rusty	P. S. 76
	(Female)	Queeny	P. S. 76
	(Female)	Rose	P. S. 6
<u>4 Sea Lions</u>	- (Male)	Flappy	P. S. 6
	(Female)	Barker	P. S. 59
	(Female)	Water-Lily	P. S. 6
	(Female)	Splashy	P. S. 76
<u>2 Baby Buffaloes</u>	- (Male)	Bill	P. S. 6
	(Female)	Nickelo	P. S. 76

The ceremony, at which the animals will officially receive the names chosen for them, will take place at Central Park Zoo, Friday, June 3 at 2 P. M.

Each of the schools which participated in the contest, will be represented by the children who selected the winning names.

June 1, 1938.

Earlier this spring the Department of Parks announced that plans were being prepared for the renovation of nine public bath houses transferred to them from the jurisdiction of the Borough President of Manhattan. Some of these structures - relics of earlier days - date back to times when tenements were cold-water flats, many with no bathtubs.

At its meeting of May 5th, 1938, the Board of Estimate made funds available for the purchase of materials and rental of construction equipment for the alterations on four of these - namely, East 23rd Street and Avenue A; 232 West 60th Street; 409 West 28th Street; and 342 East 54th Street. The improvements will be done with relief labor under the supervision of the Works Progress Administration and inspected by the Department of Parks.

Renovation of the first two will start immediately; while work on West 28th Street is tentatively scheduled to start on June 6th, and 54th Street on June 13th. At 23rd Street and Avenue A where there is adequate vacant city-owned land available, a new outdoor swimming pool, 125 ft. long x 50 ft. wide and 4 ft. 6 inches deep, will be provided, as well as a separate diving pool approximately 30 ft. x 60 ft. and 9 ft. deep. These pools will supplement the present indoor one which will remain in use and provide an essential facility for summer bathing in the midtown East Side congested district.

At 60th Street the bath will be altered so that a much-needed gymnasium will be provided on the top floor and will be connected to the present inadequate recreation building at 59th Street, which will be renovated so that locker and shower accommodations for the users of both pool and gymnasium can be installed.

The building at 28th Street, opposite Chelsea Park, which already includes a gymnasium, will be changed so that the second floor, now used for public baths, will be made into a recreation room provided with a removable stage.

The alterations to the 54th Street building which now has two separate pools - one for women and one for men - will have one large pool sufficiently deep to permit diving at one end.

In each of these four structures the plumbing, electrical, heating and ventilating systems will be thoroughly overhauled and cleansing baths for itinerants or those still residing in cold-water flats, will be provided

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

*For Release*_____

Tuesday Morning
May 31, 1938

- 2 -

separately from the pools and showers serving the pools.

These improvements, when completed, will not only provide the advantages of modern bathing and swimming, but also recreational facilities that have long been denied and for which there has been an increasing demand.

(E N D)

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

WEDNESDAY
May 25, 1938

The Department of Parks announces the reopening of the
12 outdoor swimming pools on Saturday morning, May 28th at 10 A. M.

They are located as follows:

Manhattan:	Hamilton Fish	E. Houston & Sheriff Streets
	Thomas Jefferson	111th to 114th St. & First Avenue
	Colonial	Bradhurst Ave. W. 145th to 147th St.
	Highbridge	Amsterdam Ave. & 173rd Street
Brooklyn:	McCarren	Nassau Ave. & Lorimer Street
	Sunset	7th Ave. & 43rd Street
	Red Hook	Clinton, Bay & Henry Streets
	Betsy Head	Hopkinson, Dumont & Livonia Avenues
Bronx:	Crotona	173rd Street and Fulton Avenue
Queens:	Astoria	Barclay Street and 24th Avenue
Richmond:	Faber	Faber St. bet. Richmond Terrace & Kill Van Kull
	Tompkinsville	Arriotta Street at Pier No. 6

During the Fall, Winter and Spring these pools have been operating as free play centers. Various facilities such as handball, volleyball, paddle tennis, etc., were provided and used by approximately one and one-half million children and adults. For the past month they have been closed to the public in order to do the necessary cleaning and repairing and painting to put them in readiness for summer operations.

From May 28th to June 25th the pools will open at 10 A.M. and close at 6 P. M. From June 26th until the termination of the season they will open at 10 A. M. and close at 10 P. M. When the heat is oppressive the pools will remain open later than 10 P. M., and if the evening hours are cold, or there is rain, they will be closed at 6 P.M.

On weekdays from 10 A.M. until 12:30 noon there will be a free period for children under 14 years of age, during which hours, no adults can be admitted to the pool areas. After 1 P.M. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays there is a 10¢ charge for children under 14 years of age and a 20¢ charge for older children and adults.

Group swimming and diving instructions, intra-pool and inter-pool contests, water shows, water polo tournaments, life saving and first aid classes will be part of the aquatic program. A "Learn-To-Swim" campaign has been scheduled for the period beginning June 11th to June 25th.

As a highlight of this campaign, a novice swimming meet, open to Municipal employees, will be held at Crotona Pool, Wednesday afternoon, June 22nd at 5 o'clock. The swimming season will be climaxed with the annual-five-borough swimming and diving championship, the date to be announced in the future.

Orchard Beach at Pelham Bay Park in The Bronx; Jacob Riis Park and Rockaway Beach in the Rockaway peninsula, Queens; Coney Island; and South Beach in Staten Island will also open on Saturday, May 29th. There are bath house accommodations at Jacob Riis, Orchard Beach and Coney Island. At Jacob Riis Park there will be accommodations for approximately 14,000 cars and the bath house has been enlarged to accommodate 10,000 patrons. At Orchard Beach the new parking field is nearing completion and there will be parking facilities for approximately 5000 cars. The interior of the bath house at Coney Island has been entirely redecorated, and this bath house will accommodate 10,000 patrons.

At Jacob Riis and Orchard Beach there will be a 25¢ parking fee for automobiles, a charge of 15¢ for child lockers, 25¢ for adult lockers, and 50¢ for a dressing room per person. Beach shops are also provided where bathing accessories may be purchased and beach umbrellas and chairs may be rented at a nominal charge. At Coney Island there is a charge of 15¢ for a child locker and 25¢ for an adult locker.

Recreation areas will be available to the public at Jacob Riis, Orchard Beach and Coney Island which will provide shuffleboard, paddle tennis and handball. The charge for the use of these facilities will be 10¢ per person per half hour. Besides these game areas at Jacob Riis Park, there is also an 18 hole pitch and putt golf course. A charge of 50¢ is made for each round of golf played, which includes golf clubs and balls.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

733
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the Marble Shooting Contest will be held at Heckscher Playground, Central Park, Thursday, May 26th, at 4 P. M.

Boys and girls, 12 years of age and under, who have survived the keen competition always present in the borough eliminations, will be eligible to play at the City-Wide finals on Thursday afternoon.

Prizes will consist of gold, silver and bronze medals which will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners respectively.

* * * *

May 24, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

732

732

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the Harmonica Contest for boys and girls will take place on the Mall, Central Park, Wednesday, May 25 at 8:30 P.M.

Eligible contestants have been placed in three different age groups; Group "A" - 15 years and under; Group "B" - 16 through 18 years of age; Group "C" - unlimited - over 18 years of age.

Two winners from each group in the borough eliminations will be eligible to compete at the City finals on Wednesday night.

Immediately following the contest for individual harmonica players, there will be a contest for "Harmonica Bands". Each band shall consist of not less than four (4) nor more than twelve (12) members. The winning band in each of the borough elimination contests will be permitted to participate in the city-wide finals.

Competitors of both contests will be limited to the rendition of two selections of their own choice not longer than 4 minutes each.

The winners will be rated on a basis of 50% for execution and interpretation; 50% for selection, tone rhythm, and harmony.

Mr. Rudolph Wurlitzer, Miss Lee Edwards, Editor of the "Accordian World" and Mr. Harold Leighton of the Harmonica Institute of America have consented to act as judges.

Gold medals will be awarded to the winners of the final contest, silver medals to the borough placing second and bronze medals to the remaining borough finalists,

* * * * *

MAY 24, 1938

HORSESHOE PITCHING CONTEST

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the Horseshoe Pitching Contest will be held at the Circle Lawn, Central Park and 106 Street, Saturday May 21, at 1:00 P. M.

Boys and young men over sixteen years of age of the Park Department playgrounds will vie for the city championship in both singles and doubles matches.

Playground and district eliminations were conducted in the various boroughs during the past four weeks at 279 horseshoe pitching courts under the jurisdiction of the Park Department.

The finals on Saturday will be restricted to the winner and runner-up of each borough tournament.

Prizes will consist of gold and silver medals for the winner and runner-up respectively; bronze medals will be awarded to the other contestants.

- E N D -

May 19, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces that the Bronx Playgrounds Operetta Club, a group of ambitious youngsters, sponsored by the Department of Parks, will present Gilbert and Sullivan's popular operetta, "The Mikado," at Mullaly Park Recreation Building, East 165 Street and Jerome Avenue, The Bronx, on Friday and Saturday, May 20 and 21, at 8:15 P. M.

Less than three months ago this group of children started to rehearse for a thirty-minute condensed version of the first act of "The Mikado" to be given over Station WNYC on March 19. The youngsters were so enthused over the broadcast that it was decided to organize the group as an operetta club and to give the entire performance on two evenings during May.

Considering that the entire cast of forty-five are sixteen years of age and under, it has made great strides in the short time they have been together. The entire production is being trained, staged and costumed by the Bronx Recreation Division of the Department of Parks. Those taking the principal characters are:

Nanki Poo	*Andrew Durie
Pish Tush	Lawrence Rosenthal
Poo Bah	Morris Gershenzvit
Koko	Charles Fremed
Yum Yum	*Margaret Donaghy
Pitti Sing	*Madeline Zetena
Peep Bo	Alice Steigerwald
Katisha	Sarah Post
The Mikado	Stanley Simons
Umbrella Carrier	Robert Fremed

*On May 21, these parts will be played by Seymour Weinstein, Lena Rogoff and Beverly Auerbach, respectively.

ENSEMBLE

Nobles and Guards: - Richard Anderson, Irving Ehrenreich, Myron Gritzhandler, George Jower, Melvin Mendelowitz, Mortimer Natkins, Seymour Schlessinger, Stanley Sherman, Seymour Schulman, Frank Vascellaro.

Coolies: - Abe Austrach, Theodore Bartsch, Miltin Fagin, Alvin Gomerman, Joseph Cambi, Charles Pinkham, Louis Polack.

School Girls: - Nita Berkowitz, Valeria Carpi, Gertrude Crosby, Evelyn Charles, Stella Cambi, Pearl Gluck, Lillian Gluck, Sylvia Hauser, Irene Havas, Frieda Havas, Helen Kalfakis, Perl Mendelowitz, Sara Spiro, Florence Tumarkin, Harriet Wox.

Since the original broadcast the group repeated over Station WENX and on May 8 appeared on the Mutual Broadcasting network, over Station WOR, as part of the Rainbow House program.

- E N D -

May 18, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

729
For Release ~~IMMEDIATELY~~

The Department of Parks announces that the Fourth Annual Baby Parade of the Fort Tryon Playground at Dyckman Street and Broadway, Manhattan, will be held on Saturday, May 21.

At 11 A. M. the entries will parade from P. S. No. 52, Academy Street and Vermilyea Avenue to 207th Street; then, to Sherman Avenue; and then, to the playground. The procession will reach the playground at 11:30 A. M.

Music for the occasion will be provided by the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, representing Inwood.

Over 100 entries have been received including the following divisions:

- 1st - Babies in carriages accompanied by mothers;
- 2nd - Floats;
- 3rd - Costumes;
- 4th - Twins.

The Inwood Chamber of Commerce has provided, through the interest of local social and civic agencies, ten silver loving cups.

This program is being conducted by the Playground Directors co-operating with the Mothers' Club of Fort Tryon Playground, and the Inwood Chamber of Commerce.

E N D

May 18, 1938.

May 18, 1938

ERADICATION OF TENT CATERPILLARS

EASTERN TENT CATERPILLAR (*Malacosoma americana*) -

This is one of our easily recognized common insect pests which feeds upon several of our fruit and shade trees. Wild cherry and apple trees are their favorite foods. The caterpillars occur in colonies and spin tent-like nests in the forks of limbs close to where they feed. The insects pass the winter in egg masses upon the smaller twigs of the favorite food plants. These eggs hatch early in the spring, about the time the first leaves appear the young caterpillars feed, spin their tents, and grow to full size in five or six weeks. The egg mass is from one-half to three-fourths of an inch long and forms a grayish-brown, knotlike band around the twig, closely resembling the bark in color. Each mass contains from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty eggs, placed on end, packed closely together, and covered with a layer of light brown, frothy glue, which gives a tough, smooth, glistening surface to the whole mass. The eggs are deposited by the female moths by early mid-summer; when fresh, the egg mass is white, but in a few days the color darkens.

They pupate in protected places above ground, the moths emerge in mid-summer and lay their eggs. There is only one brood per year.

During late summer the little caterpillars are formed within the eggs, but do not hatch until the next spring.

The family instinct is very strong with the young caterpillars and all from one egg mass cooperate in spinning the tent which furnishes them shelter at night and during cold or wet weather.

They commence feeding soon after sunrise, but often retire to the nest during the heat of the day, and always seek its shelter during cold days or when the sky becomes clouded and rain threatens. When full grown they become extremely restless, wander away from the nest, and are frequently encountered on walks and roadsides, and feed on almost any plant found. At this stage they are about two inches in length, deep black in color, thinly covered with yellowish hairs, with a white stripe down the middle of the back. At the middle of the side of each segment is an oval, pale blue spot with a broader, velvety black spot adjoining it in front, giving somewhat the effect of an eyespot.

Having found a suitable place under loose bark, in a fence, in the grass or rubbish beneath a tree, or in the shelter of some neighboring building, the caterpillar settles down and proceeds to encase itself in a thin cocoon of tough white silk.

Like all moths, the adults are night flyers and are frequently attracted to lights.

Tent caterpillars can be best controlled by spraying with lead arsenate mixed with water at the rate of four to six pounds to one hundred gallons of water, thoroughly spraying all of the foliage, both on the upper and under sides of the leaves.

Eradication by contact spraying is also a very good method of control. Of course, if the caterpillars are not thoroughly wetted, the spray is not effective. Contact sprays do not prevent reinfestation. This spray is composed of sodium oleate and an alcoholic extract of pyrethoum flowers diluted with water. Nicotine and soap solution mixed with water, is also an excellent contact spray. Both these contact sprays should be used according to instructions found on the containers in which the insecticides are contained. These insecticides can be purchased at any reliable seed store.

It is recommended that residents of neighborhoods where attacks occur club together and enter into a contract with a reliable tree expert company to eradicate the tent caterpillar and any other insect pest present. This arrangement is less expensive and more efficient than if individual sprayings were requested.

(END)

The Department of Parks announces that the pitch and putt golf course at Jacob Riis Park will open for play Saturday, May 14th. This course was first opened to the public last August and in the short season it was open, it was used by 3,369 players. The course has been thoroughly groomed and is now in first class condition. A charge of 50¢ made for each round of golf played also entitles the golfer to the use of clubs and balls.

The bath houses at Jacob Riis Park, Orchard Beach and Coney Island will be opened to the public on May 28th. At the same time the game areas at these locations which include shuffleboard, paddle tennis and handball will be opened to the public at a charge of 10¢ per person per half hour. Since last October these areas have been free to the public and many people have taken advantage of the handball courts during this period.

Such attractions as fireworks and outdoor dancing which were held at Jacob Riis and Orchard Beach last year, will be scheduled again this year beginning with the first week in July.

Parking is provided at Jacob Riis in the large parking field which accommodates 14,000 cars. At Orchard Beach a large portion of the new parking field will be ready and there will be accommodations for 4,000 cars. A charge of 25¢ will be made for parking at both these fields beginning May 28th.

Last year Jacob Riis was visited by 1,725,000 and Orchard Beach by 2,100,000.

The Department of Parks announces the opening to-day of two new playgrounds and a comfort station.

In Richmond at Midland and Lincoln Avenue near 10th Street, the playground is equipped for both kindergarten and older children. The kindergarten section has swings, see-saws, garden swings, jungle gym, shower basin, and an open play area for group games. The older children's area is equipped with a ping pong table, a soft ball diamond, horizontal bar and ladder, parallel bar and shuffleboard, horseshoe pitching, basketball and volleyball courts.

The perimeter of the playground is landscaped with shade trees and permanent concrete benches are also provided.

The building is of brick construction with slate roof and houses comfort facilities for boys and girls.

In The Bronx at Stebbins Avenue north of East 167th Street the playground has swings, see-saws, jungle gym, slides, garden swings, playhouses and sand table. Handball courts and a rectangular wading pool which can be used for basketball and volleyball in spring and fall are also included in the design.

Here, also, the perimeter of the playground is landscaped with shade trees and permanent concrete benches have been installed.

These two playgrounds make a total of 258 which have been added to the Park Department's recreational system since January, 1934. The total number available today is 366.

"LEARN TO SWIM" CAMPAIGN

The Department of Parks announces that a "Learn to Swim" Campaign will commence in Park Department indoor and outdoor swimming pools on Saturday June 11th and terminate on Saturday, June 24th.

A meeting of 16 various recreational organizations including the Board of Education was held on Tuesday, May 10th at 2 P.M. at the Arsenal Building, Central Park, for the purpose of enlisting their aid in the promotion of this campaign.

The representative of each agency who attended the conference pledged his wholehearted support and cooperation towards the "Learn to Swim" crusade by conducting similar campaigns in their own pools simultaneously with the Department of Parks.

According to available statistics, about 6000 persons are drowned annually in the United States and approximately 400 in New York City. Drownings occupy the very prominent position of third place in the accidental death toll of the nation.

During July and August when the peak of the swimming season is reached, drownings and automobile accidents are about on a par in the number of fatalities due to accidental means. It has been estimated that 50% of the drownings occur in rivers and that half of all drowning victims were unable to swim.

Adequate opportunities for summer bathing constitute a vital recreational need of the City. Most of the boundary waters of New York City unfortunately are polluted. With the launching of this "Learn to Swim" campaign and the opening of the Park Department swimming pools together with those of the cooperating organizations, it is anticipated that a marked decrease in drownings will be realized as well as a boon to City health, happiness and general welfare.

The public should take advantage of this opportunity to learn to swim.

The list of Park Department swimming pools which will be available for the people of New York City during the "Learn to Swim" campaign is as follows:

SWIMMING POOLS
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

OUTDOOR

<u>Pool</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>MANHATTAN</u> Hamilton Fish Pool	East Houston & Sheriff Streets
Colonial Pool	Bradhurst Avenue, W.145th to 147th Sts.
Highbridge Pool	Amsterdam Ave. & 173rd Street
Thomas Jefferson Pool	111th to 114th Streets & First Avenue
<u>BROOKLYN</u> Sunset Pool	7th Avenue and 43rd Street
McCarren Pool	Nassau Avenue and Lorimer Streets
Red Hook Pool	Clinton, Bay and Henry Streets
Betsy Head	Hopkinson, Dumont and Livonia Avenues
<u>BRONX</u> Crotona Pool	173rd Street and Fulton Avenue
<u>QUEENS</u> Astoria Pool	Barclay Street and 24th Drive
<u>RICHMOND</u> Faber Pool	Faber Street between Richmond Terrace and Kill Van Kull
Tompkinsville Pool	Arrietta Street and Pier #6

INDOOR

<u>MANHATTAN</u> 35 West 134th Street, Manhattan.
Clarkson and 7th Avenues, Manhattan.
5 Rutgers Place, Manhattan.
328 Rivington Street, Manhattan.
<u>BROOKLYN</u> Metropolitan and Bedford Avenues, Brooklyn

A list of swimming facilities to be provided by organizations cooperating in this "Learn to Swim" campaign will be announced later.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

724

FRIDAY
MAY 13, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that the Annual
Manhattan Borough Horseshoe Pitching Contest will take
place at the Circle Lawn, West 106 Street near Central
Park West in Central Park, at 2 P. M., on Saturday, May 14.

This Contest is open to young men and boys over
sixteen and will consist of singles and doubles.

The winners will represent Manhattan in the
Inter-Borough Contest to be held at the Circle Lawn on
Saturday, May 21, at 1:30 P.M.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

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Library

723
For Release IMMEDIATELY

HANDBALL TOURNAMENT

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the handball tournament, both singles and doubles for boys and young men, will take place on Saturday, May 7th at 2:00 P.M., at Houston and First Street Playground, Manhattan.

The interborough games for the purpose of determining the boroughs that will be eligible to play the final game for the city championship, are being played off during this week. Prior to the interborough competition, playground and district eliminations were held. At present there are 525 handball courts in the various playgrounds throughout the city.

In the event of rain, the games will be played off on the following day, Sunday, May 8th. Medals will be awarded to the winners of the tournament.

May 6, 1938

722

May 6, 1938.

TO THE CITY EDITOR:

Attached is a booklet and photographs on the completion of the Henry Hudson Bridge and approaches and the Henry Hudson Memorial Park, as well as a program of exercises to be held in connection with the opening of the upper level of the bridge on Saturday, May 7.

These ceremonies will also signalize the completion a year ahead of schedule, of the new Spuyten Duyvil channel for the Harlem River ship canal directly East and in the shadow of the bridge. The undertaking, accomplished through the cooperation of the War Department, eliminated an awkward natural bend in the river and involved 213,615 cubic yards of rock ledge removal and 271,000 cubic yards of other material. This improvement is another indication of the quick tempo in which the water boundaries of land under the jurisdiction of the Park Department are changing. Later, the bed of the old channel will be filled in and the reclaimed land added to the park system.

The ceremonies will be broadcast over STATIONS ~~WJZ~~, WEN and WMCA.

THIS INFORMATION IS FOR RELEASE ON SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1938.

Program of Exercises

COMPLETION OF THE UPPER DECK OF THE HENRY HUDSON BRIDGE AND APPROACHES AND THE HENRY HUDSON MEMORIAL PARK

MAY 7, 1938.

11:00 A.M.—Motor inspection of Henry Hudson Parkway, 79th Street to Henry Hudson Memorial Bridge.

Cars will form in line on north side of 79th Street, headed west.

11:45 A.M.—Opening of the ceremonies at the Henry Hudson Bridge toll gates, northbound parkway drive.

Speakers

MRS. ROBERT H. FIFE, *President*
The Garden Club of America, *introducing*

COMMISSIONER ROBERT MOSES, *Chairman*

HONORABLE JAMES J. LYONS, *President of the Borough of the Bronx*

HONORABLE STANLEY M. ISAACS, *President of the Borough of Manhattan*

LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID McCOACH, JR., *District Engineer, United States War Department*

HONORABLE A. NEWBOLD MORRIS, *President of the Council*

HENRY HUDSON WHITING, *Direct Descendant of Henry Hudson*

HONORABLE FIORELLO H. LA GUARDIA, *Mayor of the City of New York*

Opening of the bridge will be signalized by the opening of the toll gates.

Music by PARK DEPARTMENT BAND.

12:15 P.M.—Conclusion of exercises and inspection of the parkway.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

MODEL SAIL AND MOTOR BOAT REGATTA

720

For Release IMMEDIATELY

On Saturday April 30, 1938 at 1:30 P.M. the Department of Parks will conduct Model Sail and Motor Boat races at Conservatory Lake, 72nd Street and 5th Avenue, Central Park, New York.

Any boy or girl eighteen years of age or younger may enter a sail or motor boat in any of the following classes, provided he owns the boat and sails it himself.

<u>S a i l B o a t s</u>	<u>M o t o r B o a t s</u>
Class (a) from 12" - 18"	Class (g) Electric and spring powered
(b) " 18" - 25"	(h) Steam and gasoline driven
(c) " 25" - 32"	
(d) " 32" - 40"	
(e) " 40" - 50"	
(f) Constructed models to 30"	

NOTE:- All boats to be measured for overall length from stern to bow, but not including bowsprit.

A contestant may enter Class (f) in addition to the other classes if his boat is a home built model.

Boats are to sail along a pre-determined course and instructions will be given to contestants on the day of the races. Contestants must apply at the judges' booth not later than 12 noon on Saturday for measuring in of boats and assigning of race numbers.

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to the winners of each event.

Each of the remaining boroughs will hold its own model yacht and motor boat races on the following dates:-

- May 14 - Richmond - Martlings Pond - Clove Lakes
- 14 - Queens - Bowne Park
- 21 - Bronx - Van Cortlandt Park
- 28 - Brooklyn - Prospect Park Lake

Entry blanks for the above events may be secured at the borough offices of the Department of Parks.

April 28, 1938

Boys' Basketball Tournament

The Department of Parks announces that the final game of the City-Wide Basketball Tournament for boys 16 years of age and under, who are regular attendants of the Park playgrounds, will take place on Saturday, April 30th, at 2:00 P. M. at Roosevelt Playground, between the boroughs of Manhattan and Queens.

During the month of April, this tournament has proceeded through the progressive stages of elimination in inter-playground, inter-district and inter-borough games.

In the inter-borough games, the scores are as follows:

Manhattan 31	vs.	Bronx 19
Queens 30	vs.	Richmond 24
Manhattan 42	vs.	Brooklyn 18

The championship game on Saturday between Manhattan and Queens is expected to be closely contested, since each team not only has vanquished opponents in inter-playground and inter-district contests within their own borough but each team has an inter-borough victory to its credit.

The Department of Parks has 187 basketball courts under its jurisdiction. Eight are located indoors in the various gymnasias operated and supervised by the Department, and the remaining 179 are located outdoors in the various playgrounds in the five boroughs. Now the outdoor courts are constantly being used by teams of boys and young men who are anxious to play outdoor basketball after the long indoor season of the winter months.

APRIL 27, 1938.

CONCERT ON MALL - MAY 1

The Department of Parks announces that on Sunday, May 1st a concert will be given on the Mall, Central Park, at 3:00 P.M. The Brooklyn Civic Orchestra sponsored by Long Island University and directed by Dr. Paul Kosok will play.

This concert is being given in conjunction with the plans of the New York Music Week Committee and the Municipal Art Committee to promote the observance of Music Week locally and to stimulate interest in a variety of activities which will increase the public's enjoyment of music.

The training offered by the Brooklyn Civic Orchestra, which was formed five years ago, aims to prepare qualified musicians for employment in professional orchestras.

The following program will be heard Sunday.

P R O G R A M

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1 - Overture in D Major | Handel |
| 2 - Suite from "Sigurd Jorsalfar"
(a) Prelude
(b) Triumphal March | Grieg |
| 3 - Capriccio Italian | Tschaikowsky |
| 4 - Symphony No. 6 (Pathétique) | Tschaikowsky |

April 28, 1938

717

The Department of Parks announces the finals of a roller-skating hockey tournament which has been conducted in the playgrounds and parks of New York City during the months of March and April. These finals will take place at Roosevelt Playground on Sunday, May 1, at 2:00 P. M. The semi-finals will take place on Saturday, April 30 at 1:30 P. M. at the same location.

There has been an unusually large attendance of enthusiastic hockey fans at the various tournament games. The Borough of Queens has vanquished the team of the Bronx with a score of 8 to 3, and also Brooklyn with a score of 6-0. The championship game, therefore, will be between the winner of the semi-finals and Queens.

Manhattan and Richmond will play off on Saturday, April 30, and the winner of this game will compete against the Borough of Queens for the city-wide championship on Sunday, May 1 at the Roosevelt Playground.

The Park Department has under its jurisdiction 41 roller-skating areas and there appears to be a greater interest in roller-skating hockey this year than in previous years.

April 27, 1938.

April 23, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces the opening today of a new playground and comfort station at Lee Street between Lynch and Middleton Streets, Brooklyn.

The playground is equipped with swings, see-saws, jungle gym, garden swings, slides, play houses, sand tables and a rectangular-shaped wading pool which can be used for basketball and volley ball in spring and fall. Handball courts and a large open play area for group games are also included in the facilities.

The perimeter of the playground is landscaped with shade trees and permanent concrete benches.

This is the last of the 24 sites selected by the Commissioner of Parks and acquired by condemnation after authorization by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in 1936, to take care of the recreational needs of neglected neighborhoods. It makes a total of 256 playgrounds which have been added to the Park Department's recreational system since January, 1934. The total number available today is 364.

The building is of brick construction with slate roof and houses comfort facilities for boys and girls.

The Department of Parks announces that the winter and spring use of the play centers inaugurated September 18 last year, will terminate Saturday, April 23, so that the areas can be cleaned, painted and generally prepared for the coming swimming season. The swimming pools will re-open to the public 10:00 A.M. Saturday, May 28. Children under 14 years of age will be admitted free from 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. every day except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. After 1:00 P.M. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, children under 14 years of age will be admitted for ten cents and all others for twenty cents.

1,310,100 children and adults have made use of the facilities offered since the close of last year's swimming season. In the pool areas handball, shuffleboard, paddle tennis, basket ball, volley ball and various group games were provided for. During the winter when the weather was too cold, the activities were moved into the buildings where social dancing and calisthenics were conducted besides ping pong, checkers, quoits and similar games. These games were at all times under the competent supervision of men trained to instruct in and conduct the activities.

The City-wide table tennis championships were held at Astoria Pool to climax the play center season, the team championship going to Astoria Pool with Hamilton Fish Play Center and Highbridge Play Center tying for second place.

April 21, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

714
For Release _____

FRIDAY AFTERNOON
APRIL 22
SATURDAY MORNING
APRIL 23

The Department of Parks announces that it has erected signs numbering all exits from parkways in the city.

The numbering is consecutive, running outward towards the city boundaries. All exits for a given crossing or locality are designated with the same number, so that a person in giving directions to a friend using a parkway, can tell him to get off at, say, Exit No. 6, to reach the address he is headed for.

In Queens, the Kew Gardens loop connection between Grand Central Parkway, Grand Central Parkway Extension, and Interborough Parkway is numbered 11. Grand Central Parkway Extension exits start with 1 at the Triborough Bridge, and the numbers run out to number 11 at the loop. The Interborough Parkway starts with exit number 4 at Pennsylvania Avenue, in Brooklyn, and the numbers run outward to number 11 at the loop.

From the Kew Gardens loop to the City Line the numbers run up to 23 at Little Neck Parkway. Number 24 is the last exit eastbound, leading off the parkway on to Marcus Avenue.

In Nassau County the Long Island State Park Commission will continue with number 25 at Lakeville Road, etc., to the end of the parkway.

The same system will be adopted on the Laurelton Parkway in Queens, and the numbers will continue on the Southern Parkway in Nassau County, out to Amityville and Jones Beach.

The Henry Hudson Parkway is numbered from 1, at 72nd Street, northerly to number 19 at Mosholu Parkway in Van Cortlandt Park; and the Hutchinson River Parkway now starts with number 7 in Pelham Bay Park and connects into the Hutchinson River Parkway in Westchester County whose numbers start with 1 at Sandford Boulevard in Pelham. Eventually the Hutchinson River Parkway Extension will be continued southerly to the Whitestone Bridge at Old Ferry Point, and the numbering will be carried in order to the bridge.

As additional parkways are developed in the city, the same system of numbering will be carried out so that as far as possible, one consecutive system will continue for the full length of any given route.

The numbers are placed on 6" x 8" wood panels, aluminum figures on jet black background, and, in general, are located on the same post immediately under the present signs giving the names of streets and localities served by the respective exits.

Library

713

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that on Thursday afternoon, April 21, at 2:00 P. M., the children of the playgrounds will begin planting the 2,000 individual small garden plots throughout the five boroughs. Not only are the children admitted to the garden but their families as well. The first crop will be radishes, lettuce, scallions and kohlrabi which will be ready for harvest before the summer crops are planted. The seeds, tools and the instructor are provided by the Park Department. After the spring harvest, an entirely new group of children, as well as vegetables, will take possession of the garden plots. As the season advances, plots along the border of the garden are planted by the children with flowers, and interesting economic crops like peanuts, tobacco, cotton, wheat, rye, seeds of various trees, etc., to show the products of the 48 states of the Union.

The following are the largest gardens under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks: Thomas Jefferson Park Garden, Manhattan; Fort Greene Park Garden and Betsy Head Park Garden, Brooklyn; Highland Park Garden, Queens; and Crotona Park Garden, The Bronx. All of the gardens are listed below, by boroughs:

MANHATTAN

St. Gabriel's Garden	35th Street and First Avenue
Seward Garden	Jefferson and Canal Streets
St. Nicholas Garden	130th St. and St. Nicholas Terrace
189th Street & Amsterdam Ave. Garden	
Thomas Jefferson Garden	114th Street and Pleasant Avenue

BROOKLYN

Betsy Head Garden	Hopkinson and Blake Avenues
Fort Greene Garden	Myrtle and North Portland Avenues

QUEENS

Highland Garden	Jamaica Avenue and Cleveland Street
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RICHMOND

DeMatti Garden	Rosebank, Staten Island
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BRONX

Crotona Garden	St. Paul's Place and Fulton Avenue
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April 20, 1938.



Library

712
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that children's pet shows will be conducted in designated playgrounds of the five boroughs on two successive Saturdays, April 23 and April 30 at 2:00 P.M. and on Friday, April 22 at 4:00 P.M.

These annual pet shows are very popular with the "younger set" of the park playgrounds since they are afforded an opportunity to exhibit publicly the animals of their particular affections. It is expected that domestic pets of an amazing variety including small dogs, cats, gold fish, turtles, lizards, parrots and white mice will be paraded before the judges.

Entry classifications will range from the "Handsome Cat" to the "Dog with the longest Tail." The awards will be based on the general beauty and attractiveness of the pets and the care which has been given them by their youthful guardians and will consist of ribbons for first, second and third place winners in each classification.

Children desiring to enter their pets in this competitive show can secure entry blanks from the playground director in any of the park playgrounds.

The pet shows will be held at the following locations:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| APRIL 22 - 4:00 P.M. | - BROOKLYN | - New Lots Playground |
| APRIL 23 - 2:00 P.M. | - " | McKinley Park |
| | - " | New Utrecht Playground |
| | - " | James J. Byrne Memorial |
| | - " | McCarren Park |
| | - " | McKibben Playground |
| | - " | Kelly Memorial Playground |
| | QUEENS | - Anawanda Park |
| | - " | Broadway and 78th Street |
| | RICHMOND | - Crescent Avenue Playground |
| APRIL 30 - 2:00 P.M. | - BRONX | - Mullaly Playground |
| | - " | St. Mary's East Playground |
| | - " | Williamsbridge Playground |
| | - " | Charlotte Street |
| | MANHATTAN | - Columbus Playground |
| | - " | West 17th Street |
| | - " | Inwood Hill Playground |
| | - " | 83 Roosevelt St. Playground |

April 20, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces the opening today of a new playground and comfort station at Lafayette and Marcy Avenues, Brooklyn. The plot is approximately 1.7 acres and was acquired by permit from the Board of Transportation in 1936.

The playground is equipped for youngsters of pre-school age and older children. In the kindergarten section there are swings, see-saws, slides, garden swings, playhouses, sand tables and an open play area for group games. The older children's area has handball and shuffleboard courts and an oval-shaped roller skating track encircling an open play area which can be used for basketball, volleyball and similar games.

The perimeter of the playground is landscaped with shade trees. Permanent concrete benches are also provided.

This playground makes a total of 255 which have been added to the Park Department's recreational system since January, 1934. The total number available today is 363.

The building is of brick construction with slate roof and houses comfort facilities for boys and girls.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

710A
For Release APRIL 14, 1938

The Department of Parks announces the opening of the ten golf courses under its jurisdiction on Saturday morning, April 16th at 6 A. M.

Club houses are completed on all courses with restaurants, locker and shower accommodations and these facilities will be open for use of the public at all of the golf courses.

Fees for permits will be the same as last year, \$10. for an unlimited season permit, \$5. for a limited season permit good from Monday to Friday, exclusive of holidays, and \$3. for a junior limited permit good from Monday to Friday, exclusive of holidays. Daily fees are \$.75 from Monday to Friday and \$1.00 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The cost of a season locker permit is \$5. and the daily locker fee is \$.25.

Reservations may be made for \$1.00 per foursome, at the following borough offices, for starting time on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Bronx	- Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, Bronx Park	Westchester 7-5200
Brooklyn	- Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park	South 8-2300
Queens	- Overlook, Forest Park, Kew Gardens	Cleveland 3-4600
Richmond	- Field House, Clove Lakes Park	Gibraltar 2-7640

The Department of Parks also announces the opening of the clay tennis courts under its jurisdiction on Saturday morning, April 16th. Hard surface courts have been open for play since March 1st. Batteries of courts are located in the five boroughs at convenient locations and are accessible by street car, bus and subway.

Season permits, entitling the holders to play on any of the Department of Parks tennis courts, cost \$3.00.

Permits may be obtained either by mail or in person from any of the borough offices which are located as follows:

Manhattan	- Arsenal Building, 64th Street and Fifth Avenue, Central Park
Brooklyn	- Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park
Bronx	- Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, Bronx Park
Queens	- Overlook, Forest Park, Kew Gardens
Richmond	- Field House, Clove Lakes Park

Library

710

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that children up to 16 years of age, daily users of the playground at 74th Street and Henry Hudson Parkway, will participate in a "Big Apple" contest at the playground on Thursday, April 14th at 4 P.M.

Over fifty of the children will participate and a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and interest is being displayed by the children in the neighborhood.

All contestants will receive apples donated by the New York State Department of Agriculture, which will be represented by W. J. Birdsall, State Director of Markets and Henry S. Ortega, Trade Relation Council to the State Department of Agriculture.

Miss Mathilda Fraga, the Vassar College girl, who, as "Apple Annie", represents the country folk in the apple region will be present to distribute prizes.

The winning couple will receive gold medals and a basket of apples will be given to the runners-up.

Music for this contest will be furnished by a harmonica swing band comprised of youngsters from the playground and Park Department playground directors will officiate as judges.

APRIL 13, 1938

Forward to City Hall
+ mailed to Beeper Baylo
" " Cottingham

4/13/38
~~Healey~~
709

W. H. Latham

April 13, 1938

R. G. Jenkins

Prospect Park Greenhouse - Easter Flower Show

The following is material for a press release regarding the Annual Easter Flower Show in the Prospect Park greenhouse.

The Park Department announces the opening of the Annual Easter Flower Show at the Prospect Park greenhouse on Good Friday, April 15th.

Over 300 varieties of flowers are represented by approximately 10,000 specimen plants.

The major feature of the Show is a large cross, measuring 14'x27' which is made up of 4000 Easter lilies edged with light blue hydrangeas. The cross rises above grass steps over a rectangular area in which is a colorful display of azaleas. Framing the cross are unusual specimens of beautiful pink rhododendrons.

Banked along the sides of the exhibit house is a colorful display of flowers in great variety which include cinerarias, calceolarias, sweet peas, snap-dragons, lilacs and flowering crab-apples, peaches and cherries.

Doors will be opened to the Show at 10:00 A.M. Friday, April 15th, and will be open each day thereafter from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The exhibit will last for about two weeks dependent on weather conditions.

The greenhouse is located near 7th Street and Prospect Park West. It may be reached by automobile by way of the Main Drive in Prospect Park, by street car via Vanderbilt Avenue, Smith Street, Union Street and 7th Avenue trolleys, and by subway from the 7th Avenue station of the Independent subway; the Grand Army Plaza station of the 7th Avenue I. R. T. subway.

R. G. Jenkins
Borough Director

RG:FL

cc: Logue
Sherry
Healey ✓

Library

708

For Release APRIL 14, 1958

The Department of Parks announces the opening of the ten golf courses under its jurisdiction on Saturday morning, April 16th at 6 A. M.

Club houses are completed on all courses with restaurants, locker and shower accommodations and these facilities will be open for use of the public at all of the golf courses.

Fees for permits will be the same as last year, \$10. for an unlimited season permit, \$5. for a limited season permit good from Monday to Friday, exclusive of holidays, and \$3. for a junior limited permit good from Monday to Friday, exclusive of holidays. Daily fees are \$.75 from Monday to Friday and \$1.00 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The cost of a season locker permit is \$5. and the daily locker fee is \$.25.

Reservations may be made for \$1.00 per foursome, at the following borough offices, for starting time on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

- | | | |
|----------|---|--------------------|
| Bronx | - Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, Bronx Park | Westchester 7-5200 |
| Brooklyn | - Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park | South 8-2300 |
| Queens | - Overlook, Forest Park, Kew Gardens | Cleveland 3-4600 |
| Richmond | - Field House, Clove Lakes Park | Gibraltar 2-7640 |

The Department of Parks also announces the opening of the clay tennis courts under its jurisdiction on Saturday morning, April 16th. Hard surface courts have been open for play since March 1st. Batteries of courts are located in the five boroughs at convenient locations and are accessible by street car, bus and subway.

Season permits, entitling the holders to play on any of the Department of Parks tennis courts, cost \$3.00.

Permits may be obtained either by mail or in person from any of the borough offices which are located as follows:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Manhattan | - Arsenal Building, 64th Street and Fifth Avenue, Central Park |
| Brooklyn | - Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park |
| Bronx | - Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, Bronx Park |
| Queens | - Overlook, Forest Park, Kew Gardens |
| Richmond | - Field House, Clove Lakes Park |

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

708
For Release APRIL 14, 1938

The Department of Parks announces the opening of the ten golf courses under its jurisdiction on Saturday morning, April 16th at 6 A. M.

Club houses are completed on all courses with restaurants, locker and shower accommodations and these facilities will be open for use of the public at all of the golf courses.

Fees for permits will be the same as last year, \$10. for an unlimited season permit, \$5. for a limited season permit good from Monday to Friday, exclusive of holidays, and \$3. for a junior limited permit good from Monday to Friday, exclusive of holidays. Daily fees are \$.75 from Monday to Friday and \$1.00 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The cost of a season locker permit is \$5. and the daily locker fee is \$.25.

Reservations may be made for \$1.00 per foursome, at the following borough offices, for starting time on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Bronx	- Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, Bronx Park	Westchester 7-5200
Brooklyn	- Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park	South 8-2300
Queens	- Overlook, Forest Park, Kew Gardens	Cleveland 3-4600
Richmond	- Field House, Clove Lakes Park	Gibraltar 2-7640

The Department of Parks also announces the opening of the clay tennis courts under its jurisdiction on Saturday morning, April 16th. Hard surface courts have been open for play since March 1st. Batteries of courts are located in the five boroughs at convenient locations and are accessible by street car, bus and subway.

Season permits, entitling the holders to play on any of the Department of Parks tennis courts, cost \$3.00.

Permits may be obtained either by mail or in person from any of the borough offices which are located as follows:

Manhattan	- Arsenal Building, 64th Street and Fifth Avenue, Central Park
Brooklyn	- Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park
Bronx	- Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, Bronx Park
Queens	- Overlook, Forest Park, Kew Gardens
Richmond	- Field House, Clove Lakes Park

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

707
For Release APRIL 13, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that while it has jurisdiction over all street trees it has no funds with which to plant them except on parkways. However, it is not only anxious and willing to encourage civic-minded individuals and groups to improve and beautify their neighborhoods, but has for the past four years been successful in doing so particularly in the Borough of Manhattan.

To assist and protect the property owner, the Department of Parks, upon request makes a survey and reports to citizens the type and size of trees best suited to the locality, the number of trees needed, and where they should be located, after taking into consideration the existing trees, lighting fixtures and other obstructions.

The Park Department cooperates further with the property owner to the extent of securing the necessary permits, furnishing a standard contract and specifications, supervising the work and maintaining the trees after they are planted, free of charge. The original costs, however, have to be borne by the property owner.

The cost depending on the type and size of trees includes not only the tree, but the cost of excavating the hole in which the trees are to be planted and also the incidental topsoil, fertilizer and other materials.

Attached is a standard form of contract and specifications used for the planting of 19 trees on East 64th Street between Lexington and Third Avenues, Manhattan. This work was started on April 4th, 1938.

Attachs.

O F F E R

Date

The undersigned hereby offers to furnish and plant the trees, listed in the following "Schedule", at the locations shown upon the annexed diagram, and to excavate Tree Pits, furnish Top Soil and Manure, furnish and lay Granite Blocks, and all other work incidental thereto in accordance with the terms of the Specifications attached hereto. Said Specifications are hereby made a part of this offer.

It is understood that the word "Engineer" occurring in the aforesaid Specifications designates a duly authorized representative of the Department of Parks, City of New York. It is further understood that said "Engineer" shall designate the exact locations of trees to be planted; inspect and approve, or reject, any and all materials furnished and work executed under this Contract; obtain and furnish the necessary permits from the proper authorities for the execution of the work, including the use of water from fire hydrants at no expense to the Contractor.

Payment hereunder shall be made by you within ten (10) days following the acceptance of the completed work by the Engineer.

The undersigned agrees to complete the work within fifteen (15) working days after the signing of this Contract.

SCHEDULE: Nineteen (19) Platanus orientalis, 3 to 3-1/2" caliper, balled and platformed, as per Specifications.

PRICE BID: The price for furnishing and planting the trees which includes the excavation of Tree Pits, furnishing Top Soil and Manure, Staking of Trees, furnishing and laying Granite Blocks, including the cost of all labor, materials and equipment necessary or required to complete the work, and all other work incidental thereto, all in accordance with the Specifications, is the sum of _____ Dollars (\$) _____ per tree so planted.

Very truly yours,

(Contractor)

I accept the above offer and agree to pay, in accordance with the foregoing terms.

By: _____

(Title)

(Signed) _____
Chairman
Property Owners' Committee

Address

Date: _____

S P E C I F I C A T I O N S

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

FOR

STREET TREE PLANTING

IN

EAST 64TH STREET

BETWEEN LEXINGTON AND THIRD AVENUES

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

* * * * *

The work to be done under the annexed agreement will consist of removing existing sidewalk slabs, excavation of all kinds for tree pits; furnishing, mixing and depositing topsoil in backfill; furnishing, mixing and incorporating manure in backfill; furnishing and planting the trees; furnishing and installing tree stakes; furnishing and laying granite block pavement in tree pits; together with all work incidental thereto, and in accordance with these specifications and to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

EXCAVATION FOR TREE PITS

The Contractor shall excavate all tree pits not less than 3 feet by 5 feet and to a depth of 3'-6", and remove the existing sidewalk slab, as directed by the Engineer.

Where the sidewalk slab is to be removed, the slab shall be removed to the nearest dividing joints outside of the proposed tree pits. The edges of the slab forming the pit shall be finished in a manner satisfactory to the Engineer. Any damage to the adjacent slabs or curbing by the Contractor shall be replaced by him at no extra cost. All excavated materials shall be removed from the property and disposed of by the Contractor.

The soil shall be made loose and friable to a depth of one (1) foot below the bottom of the tree pit to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

TOPSOIL FOR BACKFILL

Topsoil for backfill in tree pits shall be furnished and placed in tree pits to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

Topsoil for backfilling shall be mixed with well-rotted manure and humus or sedge peat. Approximately one and three-fourths (1-3/4) cubic yards of topsoil, one-fourth (1/4) cubic yard of manure, and one-fourth (1/4) cubic yard of humus or sedge peat shall be incorporated and deposited in each tree pit, unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

TOPSOIL

Topsoil shall consist of fertile agriculture soil capable of sustaining vigorous plant growth. All topsoil shall be free of Japanese beetle, white pine weevil and other dangerous wild larvae, stones, roots, rubbish and other objectionable materials.

MANURE

The manure shall be well-decayed horse or cow manure, or a combination of both; free from saw dust, wood chips, tanbark, stones, or other foreign matter, and at least twelve months old. It shall be free from chemicals used to hasten decomposition artificially and any other injurious substances.

HUMUS

The humus shall be a natural humus or finely granulated sedge peat entirely free from coarse roots, stones, or other foreign matter objectionable to the Engineer.

TREE PLANTING

The Contractor shall furnish and plant *Platanus orientalis*, 3 to 3-1/2" caliper, balled and platformed - caliper for all trees shall be measured at a point one (1) foot from the ground. Minimum diameter of ball 30 inches. Branched 6'-8' from ground, straight trunks with single leaders intact, no abrasions on the bark, no fresh cuts of limbs over 3/4 of an inch may show, which have not completely calloused over. Trees with broken or loose balls, or trees with branches broken in shipment, or trees imperfectly proportioned will be rejected.

Trees shall be vigorous and free from insect pests, diseases, gypsy moth, Japanese beetle, frost, sun-scale, winter injuries, serious abrasions of the bark or other objectionable blemishes. All stock shall be well developed nursery stock and freshly dug.

The trunks of all trees shall be wrapped with burlap strips in a neat manner immediately after planting, to the height of the first branches or as directed or approved by the Engineer.

The pruning of the trees shall conform to the best horticultural practice. Care shall be taken in pruning to preserve the natural character of the tree. Broken or badly bruised branches shall be removed with a clean cut. All cut surfaces over one (1) inch in diameter shall be painted over with an approved tree paint.

The soil around each tree shall be thoroughly saturated with water at the time of planting, and as many times later as seasonal conditions require, or as the Engineer may direct, until acceptance of the work.

STAKING

Immediately after planting, each tree shall be supported with two (2) chestnut, oak, cypress, cedar or other stakes, 2-1/2" square by 8' long, acceptable to the Engineer. The stakes are to be driven firmly into the ground and wired to the tree, using strips of rubber hose to keep the wires from coming in contact with the tree. The stakes shall be placed about one foot away on both sides of the tree trunk and shall stand in a uniform line parallel to the curb.

GRANITE BLOCKS

The Contractor shall furnish and lay granite blocks around each tree. Granite blocks are to be cut where necessary, to meet the specifications for minimum and maximum width of joints.

Granite Blocks shall be reclaimed and recleaned granite paving blocks approximately 4" x 8" x 12". The blocks shall be carefully cleaned, to the satisfaction of the Engineer, of all tar, asphalt or other objectionable material.

The soil bed for the granite blocks shall be compacted to the satisfaction of the Engineer, before the laying is begun. The blocks shall be laid to an even surface and shall be laid with the worn surface exposed. The minimum width of joints shall be one (1) inch and the maximum width two and one-half (2-1/2) inches. The joints shall be filled with clean, sharp sand, acceptable to and as directed by the Engineer.

The blocks shall be laid according to the pattern shown on detail plan attached hereto.

I have been asked by the Press to comment on a statement by Philip N. Youtz, Director, contained in his annual report to the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, that the Brooklyn Central Museum and the Children's Museum are in a bad state of disrepair.

The Director has considerable zeal and energy which often outweigh his judgment. Ever since I became Park Commissioner, high pressure methods have been brought to bear on me to sponsor sums entirely out of proportion to the requirements of other parts of the park system for various items in these two Museum Buildings. Two of these requests were for grotesquely unsuitable architecture; one for a new building for the Children's Museum and the other for a new wing in ultra modern style to be tacked on to the classical Central Museum. Last year the Director campaigned for the Children's Museum by declaring that the present building is a fire-trap and dangerous. I promptly advised him to close it. Subsequently, he decided that his fears were almost wholly groundless and were completely dissipated by minor fire-escape additions.

The Brooklyn Central Museum has not fared badly during the last four years, even if only \$37,907. were appropriated in the regular budget for repairs and replacements. Every year since 1934 we have sponsored requests for capital outlay and other expenditures which the budget making authorities refused to consider. However, this year's Capital Outlay Budget includes items already approved in the sum of \$241,580. and Mr. Youtz fails to mention that bids were opened only last Friday and that a contract will be awarded shortly for the reconstruction of roofs on three wings of this building. The amount made available for this contract out of Capital Outlay funds was \$100,500.

I have no way of estimating the cost of the Brooklyn Museum work done by relief agencies during the last four years, but it would have been a very considerable sum even if it had been performed by contract, which is admittedly cheaper than by relief labor. An entirely new entrance was constructed for the larger Museum Building on Eastern Parkway. This included elaborate landscaping, granite retaining walls, complicated pavements, new bronze doors and entire relocation of the service road. In addition to this,

the Washington Avenue frontage was entirely done over and relandscaped in accordance with the new Eastern Parkway treatment.

Inside the building the old auditorium was remodeled; the gallery was fixed up; plumbing and heating lines were repaired and the basement was altered to make more storage space available. Also, there was a large amount of repair work done on the roofs.

The old reservoir back of the new Library Building adjacent to the Museum and Botanic Garden is now being leveled and the grounds are being landscaped - another project of considerable magnitude.

I have elaborated on the work done and contemplated for the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences so as to demonstrate that this group is scarcely the step-child of the Park Department but on the contrary has fared very well since I became Commissioner.

- E N D -

April 12, 1938

Library

705
For Release

MONDAY,
APRIL 11, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that while much publicity has been given the flowering Japanese cherry trees in Washington, D. C., New Yorkers who have neither the time nor means to go to the National Capital to see the floral display, need not forego that pleasure. On the slope at the south end of the Old Reservoir site in Central Park, between the lake and the 79th Street transverse road, is a great mass planting of beautiful and striking Japanese cherry trees which offer a floral attraction of great beauty and unusual interest.

The trees in this group came from two sources: Eighty-five were a gift, in 1934, from the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of New York to the City of New York, in commemoration of the Eightieth Anniversary of Peace and Amity with Japan. These trees, quite small when received, were set out in a Park Department nursery at 79th Street and Central Park West, where they remained until construction work on the Great Lawn was completed in 1936, at which time they were transplanted in their present location. They have grown considerably and will bear a great profusion of flowers this spring.

The backbone of the planting consists of a group of trees given to the city by a philanthropic citizen in 1920, and planted at that time in Pelham Bay Park in a garden arrangement. When moved down to Central Park in 1936, they were well grown beautiful specimens.

To see these trees at their best advantage it is advisable to enter the Old Reservoir from the North at 86th Street and walk down one of the long paths on either side of the oval-shaped Great Lawn towards the display at the south end, casting its reflection in the water of the lake beneath the Belvedere Rock, the highest elevation in Central Park.

To the East towards the Obelisk, better known as Cleopatra's Needle, which stands behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art on Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, one will find a striking display of various species of magnolia trees in full bloom, as well as Forsythia (Golden bell), Cornus Mas (Cornelian Cherry) and Cercis Canadensis (the Judas tree). Along Fifth Avenue in the vicinity of 75th Street there are also many old established Japanese cherry trees scattered through the shrubbery.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

704
For Release

WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 30, 1938.

Another active step in the project for the rehabilitation of Rockaway Beach was taken today with the successful completion by the New York City Parkway Authority of the issuance of \$18,000,000. in new $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ revenue bonds for the refunding and financing of the new work. Low bidder was -

Lehman Brothers
Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co.
Estabrook & Co.
Phelps, Fenn & Co.
Stone, Webster & Blodget, Inc.
Kean, Taylor & Co.
Roosevelt & Weigold, Inc.
Paine, Webber & Co.
Schoellkopf, Hutton & Pomeroy, Inc. and Associates.

The New York City Parkway Authority was created on March 11th of this year under Chapter 90 of the Laws of 1938, for the purpose of combining the Marine Parkway and Henry Hudson Parkway Authorities and, in addition, to carry forward the Rockaway Beach improvement project as proposed by the Department of Parks in its report of December 1, 1937. A construction contract will be let immediately for the widening and improvement of Cross Bay Boulevard as a parkway from Big Egg Marsh across Beach Channel to the Rockaway Peninsula. Under this contract the present inadequate width of roadway will be doubled to a six-lane roadway and a new draw bridge will be constructed to replace the present insecure structure.

The bridge contract will be succeeded by a demolition contract to be let within the next sixty days, for the razing and removal of the present dilapidated and unsightly buildings back of the boardwalk, for a distance of about a mile and a half between Beach 73rd and Beach 109th Streets, and for a width of 200 feet. A connecting cross plaza will also be constructed between the south end of the new bridge and a new boulevard which will be built back of the boardwalk.

Another improvement included in the plan consists of the installation of a circular grade separation structure at the intersection of Beach Channel Drive

and the new Cross Bay Parkway Bridge, which will facilitate traffic movement at this important intersection.

Proceedings are already under way for the acquisition of the land adjacent to the boardwalk for the mile and a half long distance, 200 feet wide. This area will be converted into a narrow park and marginal boulevard. One hundred feet will be used for the boulevard which will have two roadways separated by a landscaped center mall. The other 100 feet adjoining the boardwalk will be utilized for play areas, parking facilities, landscaping and for the protection of the boardwalk.

The New York City Parkway Authority will also be responsible for the successful operation of the former Henry Hudson Parkway Authority and Marine Parkway Authority improvements.

As to the Marine Parkway Authority project, preparations are now under way in expectation of a large increase in usage of Jacob Riis Park this season. The present 15¢ toll per passenger vehicle will be reduced to 10¢ upon completion of the widening of the Cross Bay Parkway bridge, at which time a 10¢ toll will go into effect on the latter bridge also.

As to the Henry Hudson Parkway Bridge over the Harlem River, also absorbed by the new Authority, rapid progress is being made on the installation of the upper deck to take care of the tremendously increased usage of this bridge. The new deck, which will increase the capacity of the bridge from four traffic lanes to six, will be completed and opened to traffic in May of this year.

(Explanatory illustrations attached.)

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

703
SATURDAY,
For Release MARCH 26, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces that applications for permits to play on the Department of Parks golf courses and tennis courts will be received at the following offices:

THE BRONX - Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue
BROOKLYN - Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park
MANHATTAN - The Arsenal, Fifth Avenue at 64th St., Central Park
QUEENS - The Overlook, Forest Park, Kew Gardens, L.I., N.Y.
RICHMOND - Clove Lakes Park, Victory Blvd. and Clove Road, S.I.

Permits will be issued as follows:

GOLF:

Season Permit - \$10.00 - Good for any day that course is opened.
Limited Season Permit - \$ 5.00 - Good for play Monday to Friday inclusive, excepting holidays.
Junior Permit - \$ 3.00 - Issued to players up to and including 16 years of age. Good for play week-days, Monday to Friday inclusive, excepting holidays.
Daily Fee - Monday to Friday inclusive, excepting holidays - \$.75;
Saturday, Sunday and holidays - \$1.00.
Season Locker - \$5.00
Daily Locker - .25

Courses under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks are:

THE BRONX: Van Cortlandt; Mosholu; Split Rock; Pelham;
BROOKLYN: Dyker Beach
QUEENS: Clearview; Kissena; Forest Park;
RICHMOND: Silver Lake; LaFourette.

Applicants are required to submit with application, a photograph of themselves, size 1-3/4" x 1-3/4".

Courses will be opened for play April 16th, weather and ground conditions permitting.

TENNIS:

Season Permit - \$3.00
Season Locker Permit - \$2.00
Daily Locker Permit (for one day only) - \$.25

Courts may be used for a period not exceeding one hour.

Applicants are required to submit with application, a photograph of themselves, size 1-1/2" x 1-1/2".

Hard surface courts are open for play at the present time. Clay courts will open for play, weather permitting, April 16th.

Tennis courts under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks are:

<u>MANHATTAN</u>		<u>Number of Clay Courts</u>	<u>Number of Hard Surface Courts</u>
<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>		
Central Park	93rd Street & West Drive	13	17
	63rd Street & York Avenue	4	
<u>BROOKLYN</u>			
Fort Greene	DeKalb Ave. & Washington Park		6
Gravesend	56th Street & 18th Avenue		9
Kelly Memorial	Avenue S & East 14th Street	7	
Leiv Eiriksson	66th Street & 7th Avenue		10
McCarren	Lorimer Street & Driggs Avenue		21
Lincoln Terrace	Eastern Parkway & Buffalo Avenue	8	3

BROOKLYN (Cont'd.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Clay Courts</u>	<u>Number of Hard Surface Courts</u>
McKinley	75th Street & 7th Avenue	5	4
Prospect Park	Prospect Park W. & 9th Street	25	
Sunset	Fifth Avenue & 41st Street		3
Dreamland	Sea Breeze Avenue & W. 5th St.		8

B R O N X

Bronx Park	Brady Avenue & Bronx Park East		6
Crotona Park	East 173rd St. & Crotona Avenue	20	
Mullaly Park	East 164th Street & Jerome Avenue	15	
St. James Park	East 193rd Street & Jerome Avenue	8	4
St. Mary's Park	East 146th Street & Trinity Avenue	3	3
Van Cort.Pk.East	233rd Street & Jerome Avenue	8	
Williamsbridge Oval	Bainbridge Avenue & 208th Street		8

Q U E E N S

Alley Pond	Grand Central Parkway, No. Blvd.	10	6
Anawanda	Grandview Ave. & Stanhope Street	3	
Brookville	Brookville Blvd. & South Conduit Highway, Rosedale		6
Crocheron	East of 215th Pl., S. of 33d Ave., Bayside		10
Cunningham	Union Turnpike, North of 193rd Street		15
Flushing Memorial	150th St. & Bayside Ave., Flushing	8	
Forest Park	Park Lane So. & 89th St., Woodhaven	7	7
Highland	Jamaica Avenue & Cleveland Street	13	13
Howard Beach	Nolan & Flynn Avenues, Howard Beach	3	
Kissena	Rose Street & Oak Ave., Flushing	12	
Triborough Bridge Approach	Hoyt Ave., So. & 21st Street		14
Wayanda	Hollis Ave., Springfield Blvd., Queens Village	2	
Playground	48th Street & 30th Ave., Astoria	2	
	89th Ave. & 90th Street, Woodhaven	8	

R I C H M O N D

Walker Park	Bard Avenue, Delafield Place & Davis Avenue	6	3
Silver Lake	Hart Boulevard, Silver Lake Park	4	

The Henry Hudson Parkway Authority announces that the eight-millionth car passed over the Henry Hudson Bridge spanning the Harlem River at 11:56 A.M., Wednesday, March 23, 1938. The car, a Ford Sedan, License No. 2V1581 owned by Mrs. William Boyce Thompson, 1061 North Broadway, Yonkers, New York, was going northward and driven by William Schledel, 7 Clark Street, Yonkers, New York. Mr. Schledel is a chauffeur in the employ of Mrs. Thompson and was alone in the car.

The volume of traffic over this bridge since it opened December 12, 1936, necessitated the Authority to issue a new \$2,000,000. bond issue last July and award contracts for the erection of an upper deck for the bridge, additional connecting roadways and landscaping through Inwood Hill Park from the bridge to Dyckman Street, and also the widening of the parkway to three lanes each in each direction from Kappock to 259th Streets.

This work, which is already under way, will be completed this spring and ready to meet the demands of the increased traffic pace.

In accordance with the custom previously established, the Authority donated a fifty-trip booklet of tickets to William Schedel.

March 24, 1938

PHONE TO CITY NEWS

FLOWERING TREES AND SHRUBS ALONG
NEW YORK CITY PARKWAYS

*Make
Copies*

The Park Department announces that, at this time of the year, the new and firmly established border plantations of the parkway system, which, year after year, have increased in development and beauty, will offer to the motorist successive floral displays of attractive blooms, rich in enjoyment and unusual interest.

Because these lands bordering the parkways are not accessible to the public or encroached upon, it has been possible, without danger of vandalism, to group azaleas, mountain laurel, roses and dozens of other flowering plants in bays and undulating borders for mass color effects, with taller subjects and hardy flowering trees such as crab-apple, dogwood, beach plum and Japanese cherry in the rear.

Starting North from the city at 72nd Street on the Henry Hudson Parkway to 200th Street are thousands of flowering crab-apple trees, many of which are scented, which will bloom in early May. At 200th Street there are wooded sections in which pink and white dogwood has been planted to cover and enliven the slopes with color. Roses on the guard-rails along the parkway will continue to bloom through June. At the northern end in Van Cortlandt Park are acres of wild flowers such as daisy, black-eyed Susan, goldenrod, butterfly and native aster which will carry the blooming period through the remainder of the growing year.

Leaving the city by the Triborough Bridge to go East on Long Island, the flowers of the dogwood and the shapely, sturdy hawthorns with their clustered white blossoms lying along dark branches like fresh snow, will be shown to advantage by the dark green pine background. Other floral high spots in this section consist of red maple and white shadblow early in the season. Later, azaleas, laurel and rhododendrons will add their color interest to particular locations.

In Flushing Meadow Park, Queens, the area around the boat basin on Flushing Bay will feature flowering crab-apple trees, while the Grand Central Parkway Extension through the park will feature dogwoods, hawthorns and roses.

Early in April, masses of yellow forsythia and white shadblow will reach their fullest development along Grand Central Parkway between 188th Street and Utopia Parkway, closely followed by the white blossoms of beach plum near the latter artery. Japanese cherry blossoms, the first pink signal of spring

bloom, follow the beach plum in the same vicinity. At this time also, the native chokeberry near Parsons Boulevard will show a white background against which may be seen the deep red buds of the azalea preparing to burst into bloom with a riot of color.

The most brilliant display of the season along the entire parkway will occur during the latter part of April and early in May, when the pink and white dogwoods, the azaleas - pink, red and white - and mountain laurel and early rhododendron reach their fullest bloom with the greatest concentration in color furnished by the massed azaleas near Parsons and Springfield Boulevards between the 188th Street bridge and Cunningham Park, and by the mountain laurels and early rhododendrons near Hollis Court Boulevard.

Flowering crab-apples, particularly near the Little Neck Parkway Bridge, will carry the pink and white color display through the middle of May, while the native and English hawthorns from Union Turnpike to 168th Street will arrive at their zenith during the latter part of May. The red and lavender Catawba rhododendrons will be in bloom at the same time from 188th Street to Cunningham Park. In June, bush roses and climbing roses on guard-rails, along with the native white rhododendrons, show a scattered bloom through the heavy, rich, green foliage background.

In early fall, the floral display will be replaced by the pageant of changing color in leaf and bark which makes native plants so distinctive from many gardenesque types which have their period of bloom and are, thereafter, increasingly less attractive as the season continues.

These border plantations serve a triple purpose in that they provide a screen for the protection of adjoining residential property, and embellishment for the parkways, and because their berry-bearing qualities provide a much needed and greatly relished variety of suitable and desirable food for interesting, attractive and hungry birds which return year after year on their migratory flights.

To the alert observer, the first signs of harvest will be seen in June when the blue-black berries of the shadblow will furnish a banquet for thrushes, flickers, robins and bluebirds, while in July, the red, black and purple berries of the chokeberry continue to furnish the birds with an abundant supply of food.

The following description of birds seen near the Grand Central Parkway in Queens was received by the Park Department from a Long Island resident who is interested in bird lore:

"The bittersweet, dogwood, viburnum, red cedar, bayberry and sumac play host to multitudes of birds that brave our northern winters. It is thrilling to see the flash of the bluejays in the junipers. The nuthatches, juncos and chick-a-dees make merry in the woods even during the heaviest snows. The flickers, song sparrows, robins and catbirds arrive from the South in March and April and delight in the wooded regions along the parkways. In May, the redheaded woodpeckers begin their cheery tapping. At the same time, many brown thrashers are seen and they find the shrubbery and vines, such as shadbush, Virginia creeper, chokeberry and spice bush, an ideal place for a summer home. With the spring, cherry and plum-blossoms come the sweet singing warblers, thrushes, bluebirds, orioles and swallows. Then the parkway is truly alive with the song and color of thousands of birds."

March 22, 1938,

Library

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For Release IMMEDIATELY

1938 Spring and Summer Program of Recreational Activities
Conducted by the Department of Parks, City of New York

The Department of Parks announces the schedule of various tournaments, contests, festivals and special events that will be conducted in the parks, playgrounds and swimming pools operated by the Department of Parks during the spring and summer seasons of the year 1938.

In preparing this recreation program, the Department of Parks has endeavored, both by variance of activities and their extension to all age groups, to present every child, adolescent and adult with ample opportunity to participate in that sport, contest or activity which realizes for him or her the fullest measure of enjoyment and satisfaction.

There will be city-wide tournaments in the following activities:-

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>AGE GROUP</u>	<u>FINALS - APPROXIMATE DATE</u>
Roller Hockey	Boys - 19 years and under	March 29th
Basketball	Boys - 16 years and under	April 19th
Baseball	Boys - 16 years and under	August 16th
Softball	Boys - 16 to 19 years Men - 19 years and over	August
Punchball	Girls - 17 years and under	August 22nd
Field Hockey	Girls - 17 years and under	Boro-wide-April & May
Twilight Baseball	Boys and Young Men 16 years and over	Boro-wide-May, June, July
Handball	Boys - 15 years and under) Singles Boys - 16 to 21 years) and Men - 21 years and over) Doubles	April 30th
Horseshoe Pitching	Boys and Young Men past) Singles and 17 years of age) Doubles	May 14th
Marble Shooting	Boys and Girls 12 years and under	May 26th
Paddle Tennis	Boys and Girls 13 to 15 yrs.) Singles and Boys and Girls 16 to 19 yrs.) Doubles	July 27th
Ping Pong	Boys and Girls 10 to 14 yrs.) Boys and Girls 14 to 17 yrs.	August 9th
Checkers	Boys and Girls 15 yrs. and under	July 21st
Chess	Boys - 14 to 17 years	July 21st
Jacks	Girls - 16 years and under	August 22nd

During the months of May and June, athletic meets will be held in the various boroughs for boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 19 years. A city-wide athletic meet will take place at Randall's Island Stadium in the early part of June.

Swimming meets will be conducted during the summer months, in the various swimming pools operated by the Department of Parks. These meets will be both intra and inter-pool in scope and will consist of individual events, fancy diving and relays. A "Learn to Swim" campaign will be inaugurated in all the swimming pools on or about June 1st.

Latent dramatic talent, vocal, musical and dancing capabilities of playground children are fostered, encouraged and developed in the following special contests which terminate in finals for the city championship.

<u>CONTEST</u>	<u>AGE GROUP</u>	<u>FINALS - APPROXIMATE DATE</u>
One-act Plays	Boys and Girls - 10 to 16 years	June 5th
Harmonica	Boys and Girls - 15 yrs. & under - 16 yrs. to 18 yrs. - Over 18 years	May 25th

(There will be a special division for Harmonica Band.)

Musical Instruments - Boys and Girls - Juniors and Seniors	June 16th (Srs.) June 19th (Jrs.)
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(This contest will include all types of musical instruments.)

Amateur Singing	Boys and Girls - 8 to 12 years -13 to 16 years	August 19th
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Folk Dancing	Girls - Under 12 years - 12 to 14 years - 14 to 16 years	June 25th
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Children's pet shows will be held in all boroughs on Saturday, April 23rd. Ribbons will be awarded to the winners. These pet shows are a source of real pleasure and delight to both the children and spectators, parents and friends alike. Cats, small dogs and birds are paraded before the judges who determine the winners on the basis of Nature's contribution to their general beauty and attractiveness and the care which has been given them by their youthful owners.

For the last five weeks on Saturday mornings between 10:30 and 11:00, the children of Park Department playgrounds have presented dramatic programs over the air through the radio facilities of the Municipal Broadcasting Station, WNYC. These broadcasts will continue each Saturday morning for a period of three weeks more.

Other enjoyable and educational activities for children in the Park Department's recreational program are the portable farmyard and the horticultural exhibit which are transported from one playground to another in the densely populated sections of the city during the months of June, July and August.

With adequate explanations and appropriate stories by the Department employees in charge, the children of the pavement world will actually see, through the portable farmyard, the cows, chickens, goats, pigs, etc., which, until then, were figments of their imaginations; and will become better informed on the importance and significance of these domestic animals in their daily lives. By means of the horticultural exhibit, the youngsters will learn visually the different common types of plants, flowers and vegetables and thereby obtain a deeper appreciation and understanding of vegetable and plant life in its relation to mankind.

Children's festivals and pageants will be conducted in all boroughs on or about August 20th.

Model yacht and motorboat races will be held for boys under 16 years of age in each of the boroughs at convenient lakes on the following dates:

QUEENS	-	May 14th	BROOKLYN	-	May 28th
MANHATTAN	-	April 23rd	RICHMOND	-	May 14th
		BRONX	-		May 28th

Wading pools also are used for the sailing of children's boats.

A model airplane contest for boys 18 years of age and under will take place in the various boroughs during the month of July. In the model yacht and airplane contests, it is not unusual for the home-made yacht or airplane to be declared the winner. Men interested in model sail boating will have a regatta on the lake in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, on June 4th.

There will be a city-wide Hill Billy contest which will consist of Hill-Billy songs, dances and music. The contest will be open to all persons 18 years of age and over. Each borough will hold its own eliminations and the finals for the city championship will be held about August 30th.

About September 8th, the famous "Barber Shop Quartet Contest" will be held. This contest will include the rendition of songs that were popular among the habitués of the old, celebrated barber shops in the early part of the present century. Each quartet will be groomed and dressed in some particular dress befitting the barber shop era. Appropriate prizes, will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners of the finals, as well as to the representative quartets from each borough.

Thousands of persons attend the city-wide finals of the various contests and activities. Last year, for example, it was estimated that over 10,000 people, young and old, from New York City and its vicinity, were present at the Hill Billy Finals.

Special programs will be prepared by each playground director in celebration of the following holidays:

- April 27th - Easter Week
- May 30th - Memorial Day
- June 14th - Flag Day
- July 4th - Independence Day

There are various rules and regulations regarding Park Department tournaments and contests, some of which are:

Only competitors who are amateurs shall be eligible to compete in any of the recreational activities, tournaments and contests conducted by the Department of Parks.

The winning of a city championship in any contest or tournament will be determined only after intra-playground; inter-playground; inter-district and inter-borough eliminations.

Prizes will consist of a gold medal, Park insignia and sweatshirt for the winners of the city championships. Those winning second place will be awarded silver medals and the borough winners will be awarded bronze medals.

A new type playground plaque will be made on which to inscribe the name of the team winning the championship in any particular game.

Certificates of award will be presented to winners of intra-playground contests and tournaments.

While latitude has been given to all age groups in this recreation program from the standpoint of active participation in sports and contests, the Department of Parks is fully cognizant that there are thousands of citizens, young and old, who desire periods of passive recreation such as concerts and drama. Therefore, arrangements have been made by the Department for a number of concerts and theatrical performances which will take place during the months of June, July and August.

The concert and drama schedules are as follows:

CONCERTS

The Daniel Guggenheim Memorial Concerts given by the Goldman Band
June 15th - to August 15th

Mall - Central Park: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday

Music Grove - Prospect Park: Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday

Naumburg Concerts given by the Naumburg Orchestra

Mall - Central Park: May 30, July 4, July 31,
September 5th.

Judge Prince Concerts given by the City Amateur Symphony
Orchestra

Mall - Central Park: June 28, July 2, July 16,
July 23, July 30.

Music Grove - Prospect Park: July 3, 10, 17, 24.

W. P. A. CONCERTS

Mall - Central Park: After August 15th - Fridays and Sundays

Music Grove - Prospect Park: During Summer - Wednesdays;
After August 15th - Sundays and Saturdays.

Forest Park - Queens: All Summer: Tuesday, Friday, Sundays.

King Park - Queens: All Summer: Wednesdays.

Poe Park - Bronx: All Summer: Mondays

All concerts, with the exception of Naumburg concerts, begin at 8:30 P. M. -
Naumburg concerts at 8:15 P. M.

D R A M A

Manhattan

Mall, Central Park (After 8/15)
Corlears Hook - Thursdays
Washington Square Park - Fridays
Roosevelt Park - Saturdays

Brooklyn

Owl's Head Park - Tuesdays
Gravesend Park - Wednesdays
Kelly Park - Thursdays
Prospect Park - Fridays
Thos. Jefferson Field - Saturdays

Bronx

St. Mary's Park - Tuesdays
Crotona Park - Wednesdays

Queens

Highland Park - Tuesdays
Forest Park - Wednesdays
King Park - Thursdays

Richmond

Silver Lake Park - Tuesdays
Robin Hood Field - Wednesdays
Semler's Field - Thursdays
Fitzgerald Field - Fridays
Wolf Pond Park - Saturdays

Theatrical performances at each of the above locations are staged by means of a portable theatre. They are produced by the Federal Theatre Project of the W. P. A. under the supervision of the Department of Parks and will commence sometime in June and continue throughout the summer.

Outdoor social dancing will also take place in the parks and playgrounds of the Department of Parks during the summer months. The dancing will start at 8:30 P. M. and end at 10:30 P. M.

The scheduled dancing locations are:

SOCIAL DANCING

Mall - Central Park	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Prospect Park Picnic Grounds	
Brooklyn	Mondays
Mullaly Recreation Center	
Bronx	Wednesdays
Jackson Hgts. Playground	
Queens	Mondays
McDonald Playground-Richmond	Wednesdays
Roosevelt Playground-Manhattan	Fridays
Colonial Playground - "	Tuesdays
Astoria Pool - Queens	Every second Friday

March 21, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
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699
For Release

SUNDAY,
MARCH 20, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces that a floating bath will be placed in operation this summer in the Hudson River, at 96th Street, adjacent to the Henry Hudson Parkway.

Floating baths date back in this city to 1889, when fifteen were constructed at a cost of \$12,000. each along the natural boundary waters. The pollution of the rivers by sewage and waste from haphazard, commercial developments soon contaminated the water so that they lost their usefulness and only six of the fifteen original baths remained in operation. In 1915, these six baths were altered and changed to floating tanks and provided with showers.

Under the provisions of the new City Charter, six baths, all in various stages of disrepair, were inherited from the Borough President of Manhattan by the Park Department. However, to provide relief from discomfort during hot summer days, as well as being a potential asset in community health, three of the barges will be reconstructed, reconditioned, appointed in a nautical manner, and installed in the Hudson, at 96th Street, to form a large, modernized floating bath unit that will accommodate 280 persons at one time. Each of the three barges have an overall length of 62 feet by 92 feet, and the two to be used for bathing will have tanks 40 feet by 68 feet and 4 feet, 6 inches deep. The third barge will have dressing, checking, shower and toilet facilities, as well as a first-aid station.

Arrangements are being made so that men, women and children may use the facility at the same time, with separate tanks for children and adults. Instead of lockers and dressing room accommodations, a basket system of checking wearing apparel, similar to that used at the twelve Park Department swimming pools, will be provided, thereby permitting a greater use of dressing facilities.

The bath will be open during daylight hours and operated in the same manner as the swimming pools have been for the past two years.

This new facility in Riverside Park will be another step in the progress of the West Side Improvement, expertly designed to provide adequate passive and active recreation of all kinds for all age groups.

Close coordination of the planning of recreational areas with the plans for the new Queensbridge Housing development is reflected by an announcement of the Park Department. Since the early part of the year, Park Department designers and executives have been conferring with the New York City Housing Authority in order to insure the provision of adequate recreational facilities for the residents of the new project. The development of the housing scheme makes it imperative to provide these park spaces simultaneously with the completion of the housing units, as the number of people—12,000—eventually to be cared for in the Queensbridge project is equal to the population of a small city.

The Housing Authority has agreed to reserve for park purposes, fourteen acres lying between Vernon Boulevard and the East River, and five and three-quarter acres between the housing development and the Queensborough Bridge. Negotiations are now under way with Governor Lehman to turn over the two-and-one-half acre parcel, formerly used as a State Barge Canal Terminal, to the City, so that the park development can be rounded out to the water's edge. This terminal is of no further value to the State, according to Col. Frederick Stuart Greene, Superintendent of Public Works. He has recommended to Governor Lehman that the land be transferred to the City for \$1.00.

The Authority plans provide for the elimination of Queens Plaza North, immediately adjacent to Queensborough Bridge, which borders the southerly side of the project. This street is of no importance either as a traffic artery or for local service. The street area will add one and three-quarter acres to the playgrounds, and the City-owned areas under the Queensborough Bridge will add three more, making a total of twenty-seven acres in the L-shaped park.

The waterfront park, which includes the former barge canal terminal will be developed with a broad promenade along the bulkhead which will be shaded by trees and provided with a number of benches, arranged to form gossip-centers in which groups of visitors to the park can hold informal discussions on matters of timely interest. Back of this promenade, there will be provisions for baseball, football and other large group games, a con-

pletely equipped children's playground, an area for active adult games under the Queensborough Bridge, and an area for passive recreation opposite 41st Street which, while not planned to extend through the housing development, will be clear of structures and thus form a long open axis.

The Park area, along the southerly side of the development, will be devoted to active recreation, with playgrounds for boys and girls of all age-groups, as well as handball courts, tennis courts, etc. These playgrounds will extend under the Queensborough Bridge on City-owned property under the present jurisdiction of the Department of Public Works, and will be separated from the housing development by a landscaped mall of limited width which will afford a tree-shaded means of access to the larger park area with its waterfront promenade.

The waterfront park will mark one more step in the development of the Queens margin of the East River for recreational purposes. Two-thirds of a mile above is the eight-acre Rainey Park, while an equal distance above the latter is the fifty-six-acre **intensively** developed Astoria Park, with its large swimming pool and complete recreational facilities.

Queensbridge will be the fifth housing development to reflect the close cooperation of the Park Department with the Housing Authority. Playgrounds have been constructed and are operating in First Houses and the Harlem Housing development in Manhattan, and the Williamsburgh Housing project in Brooklyn. In the Red Hook section of Brooklyn, a large swimming pool, athletic fields and playgrounds have already been constructed and are under operation awaiting the housing units which will flank them.

It was learned at the offices of the New York City Housing Authority that a statement on the Queensbridge Housing development will be issued on Wednesday, March 16th.

- E N D -

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
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697
DUP

For Release

697

The Department of Parks announces that ceremonies will be held at Randall's Island on Saturday morning, March 12, marking the unveiling of a plaque in memory of children who died while inmates of the House of Refuge, which was formerly located on the Island.

The plaque, erected on the southwest face of Randall's Island Stadium, now the site of the old cemetery where the children were buried, reads -

ON THIS SITE
FROM 1852 UNTIL 1935
STOOD THE NEW YORK
HOUSE OF REFUGE
ESTABLISHED BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE
REFORMATION OF JUVENILE DELIN-
QUENTS IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
AND NEAR THIS SPOT
WAS THE CEMETERY
WHERE THERE WERE INTERRED
THE REMAINS OF 60 INMATES
WHO DIED BETWEEN THE YEARS
1878 AND 1932.

IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS STRONG CONFIDENCE
AND HIS CHILDREN SHALL HAVE A PLACE OF REFUGE

PROV. 14 - 26.

The ceremonies will commence at 10:30 A. M. and the speakers will include Allyn R. Jennings, General Superintendent of Parks, who will act as Chairman, Mr. Gordon Knox Bell, member of the Board of Governors of the former House of Refuge, Honorable Byrnes MacDonald, First Deputy Commissioner of Public Welfare, and Mrs. Gordon Knox Bell, who will present the plaque to the Park Department.

(E N D)

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

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Only copy Library

The Department of Parks announces that plans are being prepared for the renovation of the nine bathhouses that have been transferred to them from the jurisdiction of the Borough President of Manhattan. The baths are located at:

81-85 Carmine Street

384 Rivington Street

Cherry and Oliver Streets

5 Rutgers Place

East 23rd Street and Avenue A

409 West 28th Street

342 East 54th Street

232 West 60th Street

35 West 134th Street

General File

These buildings, originally designed for the use of the people living in cold water flats, whose bathing facilities were non-existent, will continue to function as public baths, but in a more sanitary, efficient, and useful manner.

The redesign and reconstruction as planned by the Department of Parks will increase the play and swimming pool facilities by modernizing the present antiquated fixtures and layout. Seven of these structures were built between 1897 and 1907, and the building at 134th Street in 1922. The one at Carmine Street, although built in 1906 was remodeled in 1929.

Because of the availability of adequate vacant, city-owned land adjacent to the 23rd Street and Avenue A building, it is planned to construct an outdoor swimming and diving pool to supplement the indoor one. The outdoor pool will be 125 feet long by 50 feet wide by 4' 6" deep, and the diving pool which will be irregular in outline to fit the plot conditions will be nine feet deep. This improvement will produce a much needed facility for summer bathing in the midtown East Side congested districts.

At 60th Street, the bath will be renovated so that a gymnasium will be added to the top floor, and will be connected to the present inadequate recreation building at 59th Street, which will be renovated so that locker and shower facilities for the users of both the pool and gymnasium can be accommodated.

The building at 28th Street, where there already is a gymnasium, will be changed so that the second floor, now used for public baths, will be made into a game room.

EVENING PAPERS
MARCH 9th &
MORNING PAPERS
MARCH 10, 1938

The alterations of the 54th Street building will include the addition of a play area on the roof, and the Rutgers Place building will be changed so that an additional gymnasium can be added. Also, the roof will be remodeled for use as a playground, and it is planned to connect this playground with the Madison House settlement, so that a greater use may be made of the City's facilities.

The Rivington Street building will be remodeled to provide roof for a new gymnasium, and at Cherry and Oliver Streets, the roof altered for use as a playground, while the alterations at the 134th Street building will consist of modernizing the present bathing facilities.

There will be a considerable amount of work on all these facilities in modernizing and repairing the mechanical, purification and filtration equipment, and repairing and installing piping, heating and ventilating equipment, all of which will be done by W. P. A. forces.

Upon completion of the work at these various buildings, the neighborhoods being served will have the advantage of modern bathing, swimming and recreation facilities that has long been denied them, and for which there has been a tremendous demand.

- E N D -

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

695

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that permits will no longer be required for surf fishing at the beaches in Rockaway recently transferred from the jurisdiction of the Borough President's office in Queens to this Department.

Over a thousand applications for permits were received last year for this popular sport.

Fishing will be confined to the locations listed below and will be permitted only between the hours of 8:00 P. M. and 8:00 A. M.:

From Beach 126th Street to Beach 149th Street

From Beach 19th Street to Beach 73rd Street

The Department of Parks does, however, reserve the right to restrict fishing during these hours if it interferes with bathing.

- E N D -

March 4th, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
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TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

For Release IMMEDIATELY

694

The Department of Parks will open up the track at the Rice Memorial Stadium in Pelham Bay, The Bronx, for bicycling, as soon as weather conditions permit, in order to meet the increasing demand for cycling facilities.

The present four-laps-to-the-mile cinder track will be reconditioned and maintained suitably to accommodate track and cycling organizations. However, bicycling organizations desiring to use this facility must make application to Mr. George L. Quigley, Park Director, New Administration Building, Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, The Bronx.

- E N D -

March 4th, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

693
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Intercollegiate A.A.A.A. Track and Field Championships will be held at the Randall's Island Stadium on June 3rd and 4th according to an announcement made by the Department of Parks. Final arrangements for this most colorful of the outdoor track meets were consummated at a conference attended by Asa S. Bushnell, Executive Director of Eastern Intercollegiate Athletics and Allyn R. Jennings, General Superintendent of Parks, and other park officials at the Department Headquarters in Central Park.

A number of improvements have been made at Randall's Island since the Intercollegiate Championships were held there last year. Practically all construction work on the island will be completed before the games are to be held. A number of new walks and lawn areas have been built outside the stadium and the entire area reserved for the parking of automobiles has been concreted.

To eliminate the possibility of accidents, the discus and hammer throwing events will be held on one of the new lawn areas outside the stadium, the same as is done at Cambridge and Princeton.

According to sports officials the facilities for track and field events at Randall's Island Stadium are on a par with the best in this country. At the final Olympic Tryouts held on July 11th and 12th, 1936, when the stadium was first opened, Olympic standards were beaten in seven events. Cornelius Johnson and David Albritton created a new world's record for the high jump by doing 6'9 $\frac{3}{4}$ "; Jesse Owens established a world's record of 21 seconds for two hundred meters around a turn; Harold Manning ran the fastest three thousand meter steeplechase on record in 9 minutes 8.2 seconds; Glenn Hardin raced to a new American record of 51.4 seconds in the four hundred meter hurdles; Glenn Cunningham ran fifteen hundred meters in 3 minutes and 49.9 seconds; Forest Towns ran a one hundred and ten meter high hurdles race in 14.3 seconds, and three University of Southern California pole vaulters went over the cross bar at 14 feet and 3 inches. At the A.A.U. Sports Carnival held last June, Glenn Cunningham of the New York Curb Exchange hung up a new world's record of 6 minutes 34 seconds for the 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, while at the World Labor Meet, held last July, Elroy Robinson of the Olympic Club, San Francisco, made a new world's record of 1 minute 49.6 seconds for the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

The Park Department officials have assured Mr. Bushnell that the track, runways and jumping pits at Randall's Island will be in first class condition for another assault on the records at the Intercollegiate Games.

- E N D -

MARCH 4th, 1938

February

691
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Brooklyn Library, which has presented such an eyesore for so many years at the corner of Flatbush Avenue and Eastern Parkway, in the Borough of Brooklyn, is not only going to be completed and put in use but arrangements have been made to provide an adequate setting for the structure. More than a year ago Borough President Ingersoll urged the Mayor to complete the library. The Mayor submitted the problem to the Park Department and as a result a plan was worked out with the Borough President of Brooklyn for both the reconstruction of the library and the development of a park in the rear of the library on the site of the present Mt. Prospect Reservoir. At the present time, this reservoir is a barrier between the library and Institute Park.

The completion of the new water tunnel in Brooklyn more than a year ago made it possible for the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity to abandon this reservoir and arrangements were made at that time for the transfer of this property to the Department of Parks. The plans as developed by the Park Department will tie in with the Botanical Garden and, in effect, will provide a sitting park and passive recreation area at the Garden and also a setting for the new library. As is customary in parks of this kind, a marginal playground for small children will be built in one corner of the area. The Works Progress Administration has already started to grade this area.

One of the problems encountered in building this park was the relocation of the Water Supply Laboratory, now perched on the Flatbush Avenue bank of the reservoir. All of the City's water supply is tested in this small building, the inadequacy of which has been recognized for years. Arrangements have now been made to construct a new laboratory at Park Place and Underhill Avenue, using a portion of the site of an abandoned pumping station. Plans for the structure were prepared by the Park Department upon information furnished by Commissioner Goodman and Dr. Hale of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity. The remainder of the property at Park Place and Underhill Avenue will be used as a site for a small children's playground.

- E N D -

February 25th, 1938

RIVERSIDE DRIVE.

Compiled by Clarence True, Architect,
459 Boulevard, New York.

In 1792, a small estate near the present site of Grant's Tomb, was owned by Carlisle Pollock, the grave of whose little boy, with its headstone: "To the memory of an amiable child", still exists in the shadow of that greater mausoleum toward which the eyes of the world so often turn.

February 23, 1938.

The following is taken from the Seventeenth Annual Report of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, page 128, 129 and 130: 1912.

The Grave of "An Amiable Child."

In December, 1911, we received an inquiry from the Department of Parks as to whether any condition was imposed upon the City when it acquired Riverside Park requiring it to preserve and care for the grave, known as "the grave of an amiable child," which is in the park nearly opposite Grant's Tomb. We informed the Commissioner that so far as we could learn no such specific condition was made although there is definite evidence that the parent of the Child desired that the grave should be cared for after he parted with the property. We also represented to the Commissioner that the propinquity of the imposing monument of one of our great National Heroes to that of an amiable child appealed so strongly to popular sentiment that it was to be hoped nothing would be done to disturb their relation. So little is known in regard to this touching little memorial which excites the interest of many visitors that we give herewith a few historical facts concerning the grave and the property.

The inscription upon the monument reads as follows:

Erected
to
the Memory
an Amiable Child,
St. Claire Pollock,
died 15 July, 1797, in the 5th
Year of his age.

On the opposite side is the following quotation from Job XIV, 1-2:

"Man that is born of woman is of few days and full
of troubles. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut
down; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not."

The child was the son of George Pollock, a merchant of New York City, who once owned the property. Pollock acquired that property and adjacent land by three different deeds.

One of the more northerly parcels he acquired from Nicholas De Peyster and Francis, his wife, by deed dated August 4, 1796. (Liber 57 of Conveyances, page 266, Hall of Records.)

The second parcel he obtained from the same grantor April 25, 1798. (Liber 64, page 265.)

The third he acquired from William Molencor and Mercy his wife April 17, 1798. (Liber 57, page 273.)

On October 21, 1799, George Pollock and Catherine his wife conveyed part of the property to Gulian Verplanck, excepting the burial plot.

Soon thereafter Verplanck died, his will being probated November 30, 1799, whereupon Pollock wrote the following letter to Mrs. Gulian Verplanck, widow: (See N. Y. EVENING POST, April 20, 1895).

"There is a small enclosure near your boundary fence (and which can be extended to join it) within which lie the remains of a favorite child, covered by a marble monument. I had intended that space as the future cemetery of my family. The surrounding grounds will fall into the hands of I know not who, whose better taste or prejudice might remove the monument and lay the enclosure open.

"You will confer a peculiar and interesting favor upon me, by allowing me to convey the enclosure to you and that you will consider it a part of your own estate. There is a white marble funeral urn--prepared some time past to place on the monument, which Mr. Darley will put up and which will not lessen its beauty.

"I pray you, Madame, to pardon the seeming officiousness of opinions. I have so long considered all the grounds as my own creation, having selected it when wild and brought it to its present form--having so long and so delightfully resided on it, that I feel an interest in it that I cannot get rid of, but thro time.

"I have the honor to be very respectfully, Madame, your obliged and obedient servant,

"GEORGE POLLOCK".

With a view to carrying out the foregoing wish, on January 24, 1800, George Pollock conveyed to Cornelia Verplanck a small parcel of land "beginning at the division line of the land of Gulian Verplanck and the said George Pollock," including the burial plot. The burial plot so conveyed was two chains and sixteen links (142.56 feet) deep and seventy-eight links (51.48 feet) wide, situated very near the Hudson river. The deed in which this conveyance of this plot to John Bartow Prevost (Recorder of the City of New York), is recited is dated May 10, 1803, and recorded in the Secretary of State's office at Albany June 13, 1803, in Liber M. R. of Conveyances, page 169.

The records do not disclose that this burial plot was ever conveyed by Cornelia Verplanck, but the whole parcel was taken under condemnation proceedings by the City of New York for Riverside Park.

In the partition of the Verplanck estate in 1806, Michael Hogan, a wealthy and important citizen of New York, became owner of the surrounding property on the west side of the Bloomingdale Road from One Hundred and Twenty-first street to One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street by deeds from John Marsden Pintard and wife and from Joseph Alston and Theodosia Burr Alston, his wife. (Liber 81, pages 403, 404.) He built the house on the premises, calling the northerly part of his property Claremont and the southerly part Monte Alta. The name Claremont was given to the place in memory of the royal residence of Prince William, the Duke of Clarence (afterwards King William IV), who had been a midshipman with Hogan and who visited him when in this country.

In 1811, Hogan conveyed the southern part of the property called Monte Alta through an intermediate conveyance to Jacob Mark, and in 1821 Hogan's assignees conveyed the northern part called Claremont to Joel Post.

Prior to the War of 1812, the property was occupied for several years by Lord Courtenay. The Claremont property belonged to the Post heirs-at-law when it was taken for Riverside Park.

Riverside Park was acquired pursuant to Chapter 697 of the laws of 1867, the City obtaining possession of the lands in August, 1872. Under Chapter 447 of the laws of 1876 Riverside Park was placed under the control of the Park Department.

The Department of Parks announces the opening today of the last two sections of the large recreation center on the site of the old Williamsbridge Reservoir, located at 208th Street and Bainbridge Avenue, The Bronx.

One section is a small children's playground equipped with slides, see-saws, swings, play houses, sand pits and a jungle gym. The other is a game area for elderly men and has backgammon, checkers, chess and combination tables. Concrete ping-pong tables, horseshoe pitching and shuffleboard courts are also provided.

This 19.7 acre oval-shaped depressed area, formerly the Williamsbridge Reservoir, was acquired by transfer from the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, through the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund on June 27, 1934, for recreation purposes. The new development started in 1935 with relief forces and funds and was formally opened to the public on September 11th, 1937. Besides these two new sections the area includes a four-laps-to-the-mile cinder running track, a ball diamond, a football field, 16 hard-surfaced tennis courts, 2 large completely equipped playgrounds, a wading pool and a granite faced reinforced concrete recreation building and field house. The building is constructed from stone taken out of the old reservoir. Leading up from the active play area to the street level are ramps and walks with ample benches under shade trees for those seeking passive recreation as well as a one-half mile promenade for pedestrians.

Library 689-A
Text of 1938 Construction Program. Arterial Parkways in the Metropolitan Area.

February 10, 1938

STATEMENT WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED 1938 PARKWAY
CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA

The bill now before the Legislature (Assembly Print No. 527, Senate Print No. 384), requesting an appropriation of \$2,700,000 for arterial construction within the City of New York, provides for the beginning of construction of the Marine Parkway Spur in Brooklyn (\$750,000); the continuation of construction of the Southern Parkway in Queens (\$900,000); and the continuation of construction of the Hutchinson River Parkway Extension in the Bronx (\$1,050,000).

Another bill now before the Legislature (Assembly Print No. 843, Senate Print No. 603) requests the sum of \$875,000 for the elimination of two serious bottlenecks along the Cross County Parkway in Westchester County. This appropriation is necessary to start work from the temporary terminus of Valentine Avenue, Dunwoodie, to a connection with the Saw Mill River Parkway (\$345,000); and to construct a new viaduct at Fleetwood, to relieve present traffic congestion over the existing inadequate structure (\$530,000).

The need for providing funds for the construction of these important arterial parkway connections can hardly be overestimated. Landscaped parkways with restricted frontage, and without crossings at grade, or traffic lights, confined to pleasure vehicles, have proven to be the most efficient way of providing for a smooth flow of traffic. Unfortunately, most of the new parkways, excepting in the Borough of Queens, do not penetrate the city much beyond its border. It is now proposed to extend them into the heart of the city and to eliminate the bottlenecks in the Cross County Parkway just north of the city limits so that the whole network of parkways in the metropolitan area can be tied together into one unified system.

The metropolitan area is entitled to a considerably larger share of the proceeds of the gasoline and license plate taxes than it now receives toward the construction of modern arteries of travel. The metropolitan district should not be required to support a substantial part of

upstate highway construction, and receive no part of these funds towards the solution of the most serious arterial problems in the state.

* * *

MARINE PARKWAY SPUR, BROOKLYN

The appropriation provides for the beginning of construction of the Marine Parkway Spur connecting the east end of Emmons Avenue, Brooklyn, with Flatbush Avenue at Floyd Bennett Field and the completed Marine Parkway bridge over Rockaway Inlet to Jacob Riis Park and the Rockaways. This is a vital link in the comprehensive Brooklyn Circumferential Drive which will ultimately completely encircle Brooklyn from the proposed Manhattan-Governors Island Tunnel entrance at Red Hook, by way of the completed Shore Parkway, Guider and Emmons Avenues to and through Marine Park to Flatbush Avenue and along Canarsie to a connection with Southern Parkway (Sunrise Highway reconstruction). The amount requested, \$750,000, will provide for the construction of the Plum Beach channel bridge substructure and the completion of all dredging and filling necessary for the road bed foundation. A further appropriation of \$350,000 in 1939 will be necessary to complete and open to the public this section of parkway.

Rapid strides have been taken in carrying forward the Brooklyn Circumferential Drive project to its ultimate objective since serious consideration was first given to it ten years ago. The Long Island parkways have been constructed from the east and have created a demand for their continued extension. On the west, the Shore Parkway Extension in front of Fort Hamilton has been completed, Guider and Emmons Avenues have been widened and reconstructed, and the Sheepshead Bay frontage has been reclaimed. Finally, plans have been adopted for the construction of the Manhattan-Governors Island Tunnel to Red Hook, connecting the west side improvement in Manhattan with the arterial system in Brooklyn.

The next logical and important step in the furtherance of the Circumferential Drive is the construction of the Marine Parkway Spur which will close the gap between Emmons Avenue and the Flatbush Avenue-Marine Parkway bridge route to Jacob Riis Park and the Rockaways. The comprehensive reconstruction and expansion program of Jacob Riis Park by the

City Park Department and the Marine Parkway Authority has provided the residents of the city and visitors from outside with an attractive ocean resort.

* * *

SOUTHERN PARKWAY, QUEENS

The reconstruction of Sunrise Highway between Laurelton Parkway and Linden Boulevard as a genuine parkway, free of all crossings at grade, has become one of the most pressing needs for traffic relief in the metropolitan area. This highway was the first arterial project constructed by the state with state funds in New York City. Instead of constructing a genuine parkway with service roads, all that was done was to pile sand on top of the city's water supply conduits and pave a 40-foot wide road. Several bridges were built by the city, the most important of which is a temporary wooden trestle. As access was left everywhere, adjacent properties were filled and streets constructed through all of them at grade, traffic lights had to be installed and the net result of the whole development was a tremendously used, over-crowded highway choked with traffic and useful only because there is no other. In spite of the bad planning this is today one of the most heavily traveled highways in the entire state, carrying approximately ten million cars annually.

The completion of Laurelton Parkway connecting Sunrise Highway with the Southern State Parkway has induced a considerable increase in traffic on Sunrise Highway and has emphasized the need of reconstructing Sunrise Highway as a genuine parkway into Brooklyn as part of the ultimate Circumferential Boulevard.

The state has already contributed funds for the completion of the north service road between Laurelton Parkway and Rockaway Boulevard as part of this project. The \$900,000 appropriation requested for 1938 provides for the continuation of construction. This appropriation will permit the construction of all grade eliminations required for this parkway on the section between Laurelton Parkway and Rockaway Boulevard. A further appropriation of \$900,000 will be necessary in 1939 to complete and open this section of parkway to the public.

* * *

HUTCHINSON RIVER PARKWAY EXTENSION, BRONX

The continuation of the extension of the Hutchinson River Parkway from Goose Creek near the present southerly terminus of the parkway in Pelham Bay Park in the Bronx to Eastern Boulevard at Ferris Avenue where it will connect with the approach to the Whitestone Bridge, now under construction, is another important link in the city parkway system.

Tying in on the north with the Hutchinson River Parkway in Westchester County and the Merritt Parkway in Connecticut and on the south with the Whitestone bridge connecting the Borough of the Bronx with the completed parkway system in Queens and Long Island, the construction of this missing link is a logical and necessary step.

The appropriation of \$1,050,000 requested in the New York City arterial parkway bill now before the Legislature, provides for the beginning of construction of the bridges, grading and drainage between the Hutchinson River Parkway Extension at Goose Creek in Pelham Bay Park and the Bronx-Pelham Parkway. Additional appropriations totaling \$1,900,000 will be necessary to complete the bridges, grading, drainage, pavement and landscaping and open to the public this new section of parkway.

* * *

CROSS COUNTY PARKWAY, WESTCHESTER COUNTY

The Cross County Parkway in Westchester County is an east-west express parkway near the New York City line designed as a traffic distributor for the Saw Mill River, Bronx River and Hutchinson River Parkways. With the Henry Hudson Parkway in New York City now open to traffic, the Cross County Parkway will serve as a vital link in the through-traffic route from New York City and New Jersey (by way of the Holland and Lincoln Tunnels and the George Washington Bridge) to points in New England.

The opening of the Henry Hudson Parkway and its connection with the West Side Express Highway has thrown an increased volume of traffic on the main arteries in Westchester County. The full effect of the increase is now being felt acutely and the bottleneck conditions over the present Broad Street viaduct at Fleetwood and along the mixed traffic detour

necessitated by the gap in the Cross County Parkway at Dunwoodie have become intolerable.

The amount requested this year, \$345,000, for the extension of the Cross County Parkway at Dunwoodie will provide for construction of the railroad bridge, and for all bridges, aqueduct protection, culverts and drainage structures to the east. A further appropriation of \$305,000 will be necessary in 1939 to complete the project and open it to traffic.

The \$530,000 requested for viaduct construction at Fleetwood will provide for the completion of the main viaduct structure, opening to traffic the through parkway route, and relieving the traffic congestion at this location. A further appropriation of \$350,000 will be required in 1939 for the construction of the necessary ramps, structures, accesses and lateral connections to the Bronx River Parkway.

/s/ Robert Moses

Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

689

A combination tide gate, dam and bridge, one of the major features in the permanent development of Flushing Meadow Park, has just been completed at a cost of \$586,000.

This structure is essential to the use of the Flushing Meadow area as a park. The dam retains the water which is fed into the lakes from the large area, of which the Flushing Meadows have always been the drainage basin. The tide gate feature permits an over-flow when the lake level rises above that required, but stops the in-flow of salt water from the Flushing River and Flushing Bay. This latter function is of extreme importance for the protection of plant life from the action of salt water. The bridge is a connecting link between the park areas east and west of the Flushing River.

The structure is built on a series of steel-sheet-piling cells driven to the sand strata that underlies the area. Timber piles within the cells support the superstructure. The superstructure, made up of a series of concrete arches, forms the bridge and tide gate.

The tide gate consists of a series of flap doors, so hinged that when the pressure on the up-stream side exceeds that on the down-stream, which condition occurs when the lakes are above normal level, the water may flow out; the pressure due to high tide on the down-stream side, however, will not move the gates, and so no water can flow in.

Additional gates, actuated mechanically, are installed at a lower level, so that the lakes may, if necessary, be drained.

- END -

JANUARY 28, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

688

688

For Release IMMEDIATELY

Library

The Park Department announces that it has been granted permission by the Board of Education to use the site and building of Public School #28, Queens, for playground purposes.

The permit for this property approximately one-third acre in area and located on 115th Street between 14th Avenue and 14th Road, in College Point, will become effective for an indefinite period starting February 1st, 1938.

While the Park Department will prepare the plans for a completely equipped play area and inspect the work, the actual construction will be performed by the Works Progress Administration. Upon completion the Park Department will operate and maintain the facility in accordance with Park Department standards.

- E N D -

JANUARY 28, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

JANUARY 26, 1938

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IMMEDIATELY

For Release

Jan 28 1938

687

The Henry Hudson Parkway Authority has prepared plans and has taken bids on the construction of a pedestrian bridge over the New York Central Railroad tracks in Inwood Hill Park so as to provide access between the two portions of the park. Comeau, Kenney & Finnerty, Inc., of 9 Jackson Avenue, Long Island City, was the low bidder with a figure of \$31,786.50. Heretofore, the only way that this isolated area could be reached was from Dyckman Street, which is located at the southerly end of this long narrow strip of property.

The present location of the railroad tracks was originally the shore line of the river. This was true up until ten years ago, at which time the contractors working on the Municipal Subway were given permission to deposit excavated rock and soil out in the river, west of the tracks. The established bulkhead line was located some two hundred feet outshore of the westerly line of the railroad, but the City did not avail itself of the opportunity to increase the area of the park by filling in this land under water. By 1929, nearly two-thirds of the entire area had been filled and since that date filling has continued in a desultory manner by small contractors who received permission from the Park Department to fill in the area with material excavated from nearby building operations. The filling operations were completed about a year ago but nothing has been done to improve the condition of the area since the fill was placed.

The parkway connections to the Henry Hudson Bridge have taken considerable area out of Inwood Hill Park and the Henry Hudson Parkway Authority is replacing this area by tying the newly made property into the older park area by the construction of this bridge. The topography of the major portion of Inwood Hill Park will not permit construction of large play fields and recreation areas, but the fifteen acres which have been filled in west of the tracks present a flat area which will be developed for the use of the people of the community. This development will include the construction of a small boat basin and boat house at the southerly end next to Dyckman Street. Just north of this the plan calls for the construction of four baseball diamonds. These recreation features will use more than half of the area and the balance will be landscaped and improved with paths and benches. A promenade will be constructed along the entire shore front, approximately half a mile in length.

The Authority also announces that the seven millionth car passed over the Henry Hudson Bridge spanning the Harlem River at 9:50 A.M., Wednesday, January 26th, 1938. It was driven by Harry E. Butcher of 2054 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, a chauffeur for the Safety Fire Extinguisher Co.

In accordance with the custom previously established, the Authority donated a fifty-trip booklet of tickets to Mr. Butcher.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Library 686
January 20, 1938.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
Arsenal
Central Park

STATE BUILDING AT WORLD'S FAIR.

The press has asked for a comment on stories from the Capitol at Albany indicating that the City Park Department is responsible for the fact that the lowest bid on the permanent State Water Amphitheatre at the World's Fair is one million dollars over the funds made available by the legislature. Several specific instances were cited of alleged insistence by us on extravagant additions to the plans of Sloan and Robertson employed by the Dunnigan Commission to design this work.

Not only are these statements unqualifiedly false as evidenced by complete and conclusive records, but it is quite clear that Sloan, who seems to have been chiefly responsible for the statements, is simply trying to cover up his persistent failure to cooperate with both City and Fair officials, and his indifference to repeated warnings as to high costs.

Ever since the Fair program was agreed upon I have been responsible for all basic permanent improvements and have been advised and guided by a committee of thoroughly competent City and State officials who have met every other week to check production, expedite construction and coordinate the work of the Fair and the City and State governments. Every month we have printed a bulletin which has been distributed to the press, the public and all interested parties. This bulletin will be printed quarterly throughout the remainder of this year.

The only undertaking on which we have had no cooperation has been the State Water Amphitheatre. This permanent structure was recommended by the City and the Fair to the State and agreed to by the State authorities. The money made available by the legislature and Governor was and is adequate to accomplish the purpose. We went further. We actually made sketches of the plans

and turned them over to Sloan and Robertson, architects for the State Commission. These architects elaborated the plans. They added to the ground space without even consulting the City and Fair authorities. They refused to give us a construction schedule. Letters and telephone calls on vitally important matters addressed to them were ignored for weeks at a time, and our progress schedules will show that this is the only permanent undertaking which we were never able to keep track of.

The evidence is incontrovertible that these architects were making an unnecessarily expensive plan so as to increase their fees. An elaborate marble auditorium was added which we have repeatedly stated is not needed by the City when the Fair is over. Does Sloan claim that it was the idea of the Park Department not only to build an entire unnecessary building of marble, but also to put in it a special suite for the Governor, another special suite for the Dunnigan commission with a private kitchen, and two elevators to carry people up eighteen and one-half feet? Does Sloan think we sat up at night figuring out how to put marble doors on the fire hose cabinets, or does he concede this and other enormously expensive gadgets were his own idea?

These architects refused for many weeks to make necessary borings, persisting in an effort to get this work done for them free by the City or the Fair. Today they are at least six months behind in their construction schedule, and one of the important reasons for high bids is that double and triple shifts will be required to get the building done on time, and they have not even driven a test pile. In the meantime, the City building, which is the only other large permanent building on Flushing Meadow, has reached the stage of laying the second floor, the foundations and steel having been entirely completed.

As to the specific statements made at Albany, it is stated that the Park Department asked for opera seats, and it is implied that these are some kind of expensive plush chairs such as are found in the Metropolitan Opera House. This is sheer unadulterated bunk. The Park Department recommended that seats be of the kind that can

be raised and lowered so as to permit people to go in and out easily and to provide reasonable comfort. The seats we recommended are precisely like those built in the center section of the Randall's Island stadium and in other similar stadiums throughout the country. They are economical and serviceable. Plain wooden, backless benches would not be a satisfactory solution of this problem.

It was further stated, presumably by Sloan, that ninety thousand dollars was added to his cost because the Park Department insisted upon elaborate food bars. This is a grotesque misstatement. A total of only three food bars was asked for and it was not required that they be equipped. In other words, what the Park Department asked for was space for three food bars. The elaborate stone facing and other trimmings added by the architects around the food bar space was their own idea and represents nothing which the City wants, much less insists upon.

The statement that the City or the Fair agreed to build the stage and to relieve the architects of this expense is too foolish for serious comment. What good would a water amphitheatre be, or any other theatre, without a stage? It is true that the Fair corporation agreed to contribute one hundred thousand dollars toward the cost of the stage or any other over-run, but this is a matter over which I have no control, and which no doubt Mr. Whalen can explain. The fact is that the architects made the stage just about twice as elaborate as it needed to be and in the face of warnings that they should not do so.

At the recent meeting of the State Commission in Albany there were a lot of recriminations. From what I can learn they were due primarily to the fact that most of the members of the State Commission had not paid the slightest attention to the work of the commission and left the whole matter to the chairman who in turn left it to the architects.

There is to be a meeting this afternoon of engineers and architects representing the City and the Fair with a committee of the State Commission and their architects. If Sloan will stop his

childish antics, our technical men and those of the Fair can tell him in a couple of hours how to cut down his plans so that they will come within the State appropriation and be entirely satisfactory to both the City and the Fair.

The whole question of adjustments can be settled this afternoon. If, however, there are any responsible people who want to pursue this question further, the entire records of the Park Department and I assume those of the Fair, will be made available. In a recent personal memorandum to the Governor on this subject, I suggested a means by which he could acquaint himself with all the facts, and offered the fullest cooperation. I do not see any particular benefit to be derived from wasting further time on this subject, but I do not intend that the City Park Department shall be made the goat in the matter and would suggest to Sloan and Robertson that they watch their step very carefully before they pursue this subject any further.

ROBERT MOSES

Commissioner.

The Department of Parks announces an Ice Skating Carnival for Friday evening, January 21st, starting at 8: 00 P. M., on Conservatory Lake opposite 74th Street and 5th Avenue, in Central Park.

Entries for the events listed below will be received by mail or telephone, Regent 4-1000 - Extension 89, up to 4:00 P.M., Friday, January 21st.

<u>BOYS & MEN</u>	<u>GIRLS & WOMEN</u>
100 yd. dash - Junior	100 yd. dash - Junior
220 " " - "	220 " " - "
220 " " - Intermediate	220 " " - Intermediate
440 " " - "	440 " " - "
220 " " - Senior	220 " " - Senior
880 " " - "	880 " " - "
880 " " - Open	220 " " - Open
Mile race - "	

No post entries will be considered.

The first three (3) winners in the above events will be awarded appropriate medals and will be eligible to compete in the Final Events in a Borough wide Ice Carnival to be held at a later date.

During the racing events, there will be in the center of the arena a special Figure and Fancy Skating Contest. Prizes will be awarded for these events also.

Accommodations will be provided for spectators on park bleachers erected around the Lake.

084 A Library

684A

1/18/38

MEMORANDUM ACCOMPANYING NEW YORK CITY PARKWAY

AUTHORITY BILL

This bill is designed to provide a method of financing the cost of widening Beach Channel Bridge on Cross Bay Boulevard in the Borough of Queens and of constructing a parkway between Cross Bay Boulevard and the boardwalk on Rockaway Beach and an ocean parkway parallel to the boardwalk with incidental beach and park improvements.

By the provisions of the new City Charter, Rockaway Beach is placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks.

The Commissioner of Parks had a survey made of the condition of this beach which indicated it was too narrow, overcrowded, commercially exploited, and that there were insufficient traffic approaches to take care of present needs, and that traffic was bound to increase.

The Commissioner recommended to the Mayor that certain improvements should be made at once and suggested that the main Cross Bay Boulevard bridge be widened and made a toll structure.

The most serious problems on the Rockaway Peninsula are lack of sufficient traffic arteries, lack of parking spaces, the narrowness of the beach area and the danger from erosion. The present dilapidated buildings adjoining the boardwalk and the crowded old frame tenements and rooming houses on the streets leading to the boardwalk, are a fire and health menace. Street congestion is so bad at times that fire apparatus answering alarms is brought to a standstill.

On many occasions during the summer, thousands of cars are backed up for miles because of the bottleneck on the Cross Bay Boulevard and the lack of east and west highway arteries.

At the request of the Borough President of Queens, funds were made available to the former Department of Plant and Structures

for the making of plans for the widening of Beach Channel bridge on Cross Bay Boulevard, but no ordinary city funds were made available or are in sight for actual construction.

To the west of Cross Bay Boulevard is Marine Parkway Bridge under the jurisdiction of Marine Parkway Authority, on which a charge of fifteen cents is made for each pleasure car and higher rates for each truck crossing the bridge. It is proposed to combine these two arteries under one Authority and charge a toll of ten cents per passenger car on Cross Bay Boulevard and reduce the Marine Parkway Bridge toll to ten cents. Trucks will continue to pay a somewhat higher charge. It is further proposed to combine with these two projects the Henry Hudson Parkway now under the jurisdiction of the Henry Hudson Parkway Authority. This will centralize in one administration all the authorities in New York City which are under the control of the Commissioner of Parks, resulting in increased administrative efficiency and economy. Furthermore, the income from Henry Hudson parkway has exceeded all expectations and by combining it with the other projects, the amount of money necessary for the additional improvements can be borrowed at advantageous interest rates. The Marine Parkway Authority is authorized to issue bonds to the total amount of \$10,000,000, of which \$6,000,000 are outstanding, and the Henry Hudson Parkway Authority is authorized to issue bonds to the total amount of \$8,000,000, of which \$5,100,000 are outstanding. It is proposed to authorize the new authority to issue bonds to the total amount of \$18,000,000 authorized by the present two authorities and for no more, and from the proceeds of sale of \$18,000,000. bonds to retire the outstanding bonds of Marine Parkway Authority and Henry Hudson Parkway Authority and use the balance for widening of Beach Channel Bridge, and for parkway and beach improvements. The City of New York will also be required to make a contribution for additional land. The completion of these improvements on the

Rockaway peninsula, besides relieving the traffic problem and providing greatly increased and improved public usage of the beach, will eliminate the most undesirable developments along the boardwalk and increase the value of property throughout the whole Rockaway Peninsula.

Mayor LaGuardia is requesting Governor Lehman to send to the Legislature an emergency message under the home rule section of the constitution.

The arrangements for the necessary financing have already been discussed with investment banking firms and will proceed promptly on the passage of this act so that actual construction of improvements can begin in the spring.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

683 Library
For Release

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SUNDAY,
JANUARY 16, 1938.

The United States Navy has authorized the expenditure of funds for the improvement of the surroundings of the Dover Patrol Memorial in Fort Hamilton Park, Brooklyn. Contract plans have been prepared by the Navy from a landscape design made by the Department of Parks.

A formal plaza, paved with asphalt blocks and bordered with a panel of bluestone flagging, will be constructed around the memorial shaft. New benches, backed by low evergreen planting outlining the shape of the plaza will be installed.

The 81-foot pyramidal shaft, built of grey granite, stands on a commanding site near the shore of the Narrows where one may obtain unobstructed views of Lower New York Bay and the ocean beyond. Existing large trees on the north side of the shaft form a solid green bank against which the monument is clearly outlined, making it visible far at sea.

In the design for the extension of the Brooklyn Shore Parkway, a new bridge will provide access from the Shore Road and Fourth Avenue to the parkway. In connection with this work, the existing roads will be rearranged to permit the construction of a large open lawn area formally bordered with shade trees, with the memorial as a focal point at the end of the mall. This mall will terminate in an overlook at the brow of the hill, immediately adjacent to the parkway, where extensive views may be obtained of the parkway around the half moon of Gravesend Bay.

The monument was designed by Sir Astor Webb & Son, Architects, and erected in 1931, from funds provided by public subscription in Great Britain. Identical monuments have been erected at Dover, England, and Cap Blanc Nez, France, as British tributes to the American Navy's part in patrolling the English Channel during the World War.

Library

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The Henry Hudson Parkway Authority announces that the lower level drive of the parkway between Dyckman Street and the George Washington Bridge will be opened to the public at noon on Saturday, January 15th. This additional link in the Henry Hudson Parkway system is a one-way southbound artery.

Concurrent with the opening of this new lower level road through Fort Washington Park, Riverside Drive from the George Washington Bridge to Dyckman Street will become one-way, northbound, for motorists proceeding to the Henry Hudson Bridge, Dyckman Street, Broadway and points north.

From Tuesday, February 1st, to Tuesday, March 1st inclusive, while the new upper deck of the Henry Hudson Bridge is being erected to care for increased traffic, the bridge will be closed on weekdays from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. At all other hours, as well as on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, the bridge will be open to traffic.

The upper bridge decking, the widening of the existing parkway north of the bridge and the new approach through Inwood Hill Park will be completed and opened to the public in May of this year.

When completed, the present level of the bridge and the present parkway drive through Inwood Hill will be used for southbound traffic only, and the new upper deck and the new roadway through Inwood will be used for traffic in the opposite direction. Pedestrian underpasses are provided under the parkway drives in Inwood Hill so that they do not split the park in half. The toll gates at the bridge will be increased in number from the present total of eight to eight in each direction. This work will mark the completion of the Henry Hudson Parkway, one of the most important urban express arteries in the country, which permits free flowing traffic to proceed from Canal Street in Manhattan to the city line at Westchester County.

- E N D -

ATTACH.

JANUARY 10, 1938

Governor Lehman recently instructed Dr. William J. Tiffany, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene in the State, and Mr. William E. Haugaard, State Architect, to meet with representatives of Park Commissioner Moses to prepare a preliminary plan for the evacuation of Ward's Island which in accordance with State law must be entirely vacated by 1943.

As a result of the conference held on November 20th, a tentative agreement was made which will permit the Department of Parks to proceed with construction in the southeasterly corner of the Island, between Hell Gate Bridge and the Triborough Bridge. This section is now the site of a group of old buildings, erected as temporary structures during the war, which for the most part have been vacant for some time. This area will be vacated by the first of the year and the Park Department will proceed to fence it and demolish the buildings. This plot, which contains 37 acres, will be completed and opened to the public in 1939. It was also tentatively agreed that, prior to the complete evacuation of the Island, the Park Department would be allowed to supplement the existing fine growth on the Island with additional trees so that when the work was completed and the entire Island opened to the public, these trees would be well established and have the advantage of the growth of the intervening years.

Plans are now being formulated by the Department of Mental Hygiene and by the State Architect to provide accommodations in other institutions for the patients, employees and staff now occupying the other areas of the Island. These plans contemplate the progressive elimination of existing buildings by the Park Department as the State withdraws, starting in the area east of the Triborough Bridge and gradually extending into areas to the west until all are finally removed in 1943. This will permit a program of park development starting now and progressing systematically to its completion with gradually increasing recreational facilities for the public.

When completed, the entire Island south and west of the Hell Gate Bridge structure, a tract of 177 acres, will be devoted to a carefully balanced combination of active and passive recreation areas. A new foot bridge will provide access from 103rd Street in Manhattan. Three large play fields will provide needed baseball facilities for the children of the upper east side, while a picnic grove and large landscaped lawn in the southeastern corner will afford a place for quiet recreation for older people. For pedestrians from the Bronx and Queens, a ramp will be constructed from the Triborough Bridge structure which will land visitors alongside of a bus station, serving those

who come to the Island in that type of conveyance. When the intensive development of the Island is complete, it will offer an area equal in size to that portion of Central Park between Fifth Avenue and Central Park West running from 99th Street to 110th Street.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

For Release _____

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

The Park Department announces that a bronze statue of Henry Hudson was erected today on top of the Henry Hudson Memorial column which stands as a landmarker at Spuyten Duyvil opposite 227th Street, and which was dedicated by Governor Charles Evans Hughes during the Hudson-Fulton celebration in 1909. The statue was furnished by the Henry Hudson Parkway Authority, which retained Karl H. Gruppe as sculptor, to model the statue from a photograph of an original plaster model. The original modeled by Karl Bitter, N.A., the eminent sculptor who died in 1915, disappeared after being placed on exhibition in an endeavor to raise funds for the statue. Mr. Gruppe was associated for years with Mr. Bitter.

The statue, 16 feet in height, represents the famous navigator and explorer clad in rough sea-faring garments, standing erect with one hand near the hilt of his sword, gazing out on the river named in his memory.

As soon as the workmen complete anchoring the statue in place, the sectional steel tubing scaffolding used in erection will be removed and work in connection with the base of the 100 foot fluted column of doric design will progress so that it will be completed by the time the upper level of the Henry Hudson Bridge and its approaches are opened to the public this spring.

The north and south faces of the base of the monument will contain bronze bas-reliefs, each 7 feet 2 inches by 9 feet six inches. These will also be executed by Mr. Gruppe. The front bronze bas-relief of Henry Hudson Monument shows Henry Hudson receiving his commission from the Dutch East India Co., and the rear bas-relief shows the first fur trading post established on Manhattan Island.

Henry Hudson Memorial Park in which the statue is located is being redesigned and reconstructed to make a fitting setting for the monument and to provide needed recreation for the public. The entire park will be fenced in; broad colprovia walks will be constructed; a small children's play area equipped with apparatus will be provided, as well as permanent concrete benches. The Plaza around the base of the monument will be paved with bluestone; lawn areas will be regraded and seeded, and planting areas generously provided with small and large trees. This work will also be completed for the opening of the upper level of the bridge.

The Department of Parks announces the opening today of two new playgrounds.

In the Greenpoint section of Brooklyn at the Old Broadway Ferry Terminal, at the foot of Broadway and Kent Avenue, which was acquired from the Department of Plant and Structures through the Sinking Fund Commission on October 20, 1934, there is a new playground equipped with swings, see-saws and slides for small children, and shuffleboard, handball, horseshoe pitching, basketball and volleyball courts for older children and adults. Permanent concrete benches under shade trees are provided for those seeking passive recreation.

In Queens, at 34th Avenue between 96th Street and Junction Boulevard, the new playground has slides, swings, see-saws, sand table, shuffleboard and handball courts. A rectangular wading pool which can be used for basketball and volleyball in spring and fall is also provided. Shade trees and permanent concrete benches are included in the landscape treatment. In this playground there is also a new building of brick construction, with comfort facilities for boys and girls.

These two playgrounds make a total of 253 which have been added to the Park Department's recreational system since January, 1934. Fifty-eight of these were opened to the public during the year 1937. The total number available today is 361.

NOTE: Phoned to City News Association as per A. R. Jennings' instructions.

JANUARY 4, 1938

7/1/38

7034

Activities, locations and time listed.
 Announcement that the City of Brooklyn
 has given clearance to Central Park Zoo
 764 - Announcement of 3 new playgrounds and one redesigned and enlarged
 playground. Queens: 14th St., south of 31st ave., adjacent to the
 Astoria Health Center. Brooklyn: New York and Clarkson Aves.
 23rd St., between 4th and 5th aves. Ave P. and E. 4th St.
 Total of 261 additional playgrounds to the Park System. Total
 available today is 369.

- ✓ 7/1/38 - 765 - Announcement by the New York City Parkway Authority that wrecking
 contractors are demolishing structures within area of proposed
 ocean front parkway between Beach 73d and Beach 109th Sts and
 within area of approaches to Cross Bay Parkway Bridge over
 Beach Channel.
- ✓ 7/1/38 - 766 - Announcement of 369 playgrounds open during the summer from 9 a.m.
 to 9 p.m. Also listing of Pools for the summer months.
- ✓ 7/5/38 - 767 - Details of the entourage of the Crown Prince of Sweden to take
 place Tuesday, July 5th by motor.
- ✓ 7/8/38 - ⁷⁶⁸ Announcement of a 2-1/2 mile stretch of Long Island Motor Parkway ex-
 tending from Horace Harding Boulevard to Alley Pond Park will
 be opened Saturday, July 9th, at 10 a.m., for the exclusive use
 of bicyclists.
- ✓ 7/8/38 - 769 - Announcement of gift of white albino turtle for the Central Park
 Zoo from Mr. Louis Kasin, an importer.
- ✓ 7/8/38 - 770 - Listing of tournaments and schedules conducted by the Park
 Department Playgrounds during the months of July and August.
- ✓ 7/8/38 - 771 - Detailed announcement of the Community Singing at Washington
 Square Park.
- ✓ 7/12/38 - 772 - Announcement of another new baseball diamond at Randall's Island,
 to be opened for play July 15th.
- ✓ 7/13/38 - 773 - Announcement of bids opened on July 11th for installation of an
 8 ft. chain link fence along the westerly boundary of Flushing
 Meadow Park.

- ✓ 7/13/38 - 774 - Announcement and listing of locations throughout the city where community singing will be conducted.
- ✓ 7/13/38 - 775 - Announcement of the termination of the present week's production of operettas at Jones Beach and Randall's Island, July 16th and 17th, due to Labor trouble. Other activities at Jones Beach and Randall's Island listed.
- ✓ 7/13/38 - 776 - Rules and regulations relative to amateur photographic contest, depicting "Youth and Age in our City Parks and Playgrounds" to take place in all the parks and park playgrounds in the City
- ✓ 7/13/38 - 777 - Bids opened on July 11th for the repaving of Grand Central Pkway between St. Michael's Cemetery and Union Turnpike. Resume of work to be done.
- ✓ 7/24/38 - 778 - Announcement of the closing of golf courses in Queens and Bronx one day each week, due to tremendous overplay on links. Days and Courses listed.
- ✓ 7/27/38 - 779 - Announcement of Checker and Chess tournaments during the month of August. Resume of activities in Parks and Playgrounds and details of tournaments.
- ✓ 7/27/38 - 780 - Solicitation of funds by Park Employees in Rockaway Beach are prohibited.
- ✓ 7/27/38 - 781 - Announcement of girls of Park Dept. playgrounds in Bklyn. are attending practice sessions for the Annual Dance Festival, to take place on Long Meadow, Prospect Park, Saturday, August 20, at 2/30 p.m. Details given.
- missing- 7/27/38 - 782 - Copy of letter from Mr. Moses to Deputy Mayor, Henry H. Curran relative to Monuments in the city.
- ✓ 7/28/38 - 783 - Bids will be taken on August 12th, for reconstruction of St. Mary's Park, Bronx, for which the Board of Estimate appropriated \$138,000, today. Details of work listed.
- ✓ 7/28/38 - 784 - A sequel to the Traveling Farm Yard, which has completed its tour of city playgrounds, a "Bit of Country" on wheels will begin its tour of ~~city~~ city playgrounds August 1st, at 10 a.m. A description of same with playgrounds and dates listed.
- missing- 8/4/38 - 785 - Opening of Floating Baths at Hudson River & 96th St.
- missing- 8/8/38 - 785-A - Bicycle plans for all boroughs. (Booklet)
- ✓ 8/10/38 - 786 - Demolition of Post Office in City Hall Park
- ✓ 8/11/38 - 787 - Life Guard Meet to be held at Jacob Riis Park on August 24th.
- ✓ 8/15/38 - 788 - Statement of Park Commissioner on Board of Education Recreational Facilities now shut up, which should be open to the public and on lack of cooperation with the Park Dept.
- ✓ 8/15/38 - 789 - Finals of Barber Shop Quartet.
- ✓ 8/15/38 - 790 - 83 softball areas in park system. Number of teams throughout the five boroughs.

- ✓ 8/16/38 - 791 - Central Park Zoo - gift of lion.
- ✓ 8/18/38 - 792 - World's Fair - completion of paving walks & road in Boat Basin area.
- ✓ 8/18/38 - 793 - Jacob Riis Park - Life Guard Tournament
- ✓ 8/23/38 - 794 - Astoria Pool - Swimming & Diving Championship
- ✓ 9/6/38 - 795 - Central Park - Barber Shop Contest
- ✓ 9/6/38 - 796 - Tree planting.
- ✓ 9/12/38 - 797 - Revenue producing report.
- ✓ 9/13/38 - 798 - Prospect Park Zoo - Gift of elephant from Abraham & Straus Dept. Store
- ✓ 9/14/38 - 799 - Geo. H. Cromwell Pier, Richmond - U. S. Maritime Commission gives permission for visitors on sailing ship, Tusitala.
- ✓ 9/15/38 - 800 - City-wide finals of Shuffleboard Tournament at North Meadow, Central Park
- ✓ 9/21/38 - 801 - Model Boat Regatta to be Conducted in Prospect Park.
- ✓ 9/22/38 - 802 - State Dept. of Mental Hygiene to locate school adjacent to Willowbrook Park. Description of Parkway plans for Staten Island.
- ✓ 9/23/38 - 803 - Bicycling permitted on Rockaway Beach and Coney Island boardwalks.
- ✓ 9/23/38 - 804 - Sale of balloons in Central Park Zoo.
- ✓ 9/28/38 - 805 - Finals of Magic Contest on Mall, Central Park.
- ✓ 10/3/38 - 806 - Photographs submitted for Amateur Photo Contest on display at American Museum of Natural History.
- ✓ 10/8/38 - 807 - Children's Harvest in Park Gardens.
- ✓ 10/10/38 - 808 - Record of Commissioner Moses' comments before Board of Estimate on dumping in Jamaica Bay.
- ✓ 10/12/38 & 808A *Queens and Brooklyn must give up circumferential*
- ✓ 10/14/38 - 809 - Completion of reconstruction of Mt. Morris Park.
- ✓ 10/14/38 - 810 - Final rounds of N. Y. Municipal Golf Championship play at Forest Park Golf Course.
- ✓ 10/14/38 - 811 - Bids on contract for alterations to Natatorium Bldg. at Rice Memorial in Pelham Bay Park.
- ✓ 10/17/38 - 812 - City-wide Whistling Contest conducted at Mullaly Plgd.
- ✓ 10/17/38 - 813 - Amateur Photo Contest and Handcraft Exhibit at American Museum of Natural History.
- ✓ 10/18/38 - 814 - Results of Municipal Golf Championship.
- ✓ 10/20/38 - 815 - Plaques installed as permanent records of awards made by American Institute of Steel Construction. Story on Marine Parkway Bridge, Little Hell Gate Low Level Bridge and Northern Blvd. Bridge in Queens.

- ✓ 10/21/1938 - 816 - Southbound roadway of Henry Hudson Pkwy. from George Washington Bridge to 79th St. closed for 1 week.
- ✓ 10/21/38 - 817 - Winners of Amateur Photo Contest.
- ✓ 10/21/38 - 818 - Finals of Roller Skating Contest at Circle Lawn, 106th St. & Central Pk. West.
- ✓ 10/21/38 818A Formation of playground bands and orchestras
- ✓ 10/25/38 - 819 - 5th Annual Review of Civil Service Personnel.
- 10/26/38 819A Chrysanthemum's bloom in Conservatory Garden
- ✓ 11/4/38 - 820 - Annual chrysanthemum show at Prospect Park.
- ✓ 11/7/38 - 821 - Final tournament for caddies at Mosholu Golf Course.
- ✓ 11/7/38 - 822 - Vanderbilt Gate to be installed at Conservatory Gardens at 104th St. & 5th Ave., Central Park.
- ✓ 11/7/38 - 823 - Bids taken for first 3 contracts for construction of Circumferential Pkwy. Bids in Shore Pkwy. section.
- ✓ 11/9/38 - 824 - Bids taken for 4th contract on Circumferential Pkwy.
- ✓ 11/10/38 - 825 - Finals of Whistling Contest at Mullaly Recreation Bldg.
- ✓ 11/5/38 - 826 - Final tournament for caddies at Mosholu Golf Course.
- ✓ 11/21/38 - 827 - Presentation of plan for Housing & Recreation. (Booklet (missing) attached) (Show in book case) 1991
- ✓ 11/21/38 827A work to be completed on Wantagh
- ✓ 11/26/38 - 828 - Closing of golf courses.
- ✓ 12/4/38 - 829 - Court of Appeals upholds Civil Service Commission in requiring City's life guards to take practical tests.
- missing 12/6/38 - 830 - Ceremony to be held in connection with construction of Circumferential Pkwy. in Whitestone, Q ueens.
- ✓ 12/12/38 - 831 - 5th Contract on Circumferential Pkwy.
- ✓ 12/13/38 - 832 - List of areas for ice skating, skiing and coasting.
- missing 12/18/38 - 833 - Ceremonies in connection with Christmas Trees.
- ✓ 12/16/38 - 834 - Contract for erection of Vanderbilt Gates in Central Pk. awarded.
- ✓ 12/17/38 - 835 - Christmas Exhibit in Prospect Pk. Greenhouse.
- ✓ 12/20/38 - 836 - Bids received on 6th contract for Circumferential Pkwy.
- ✓ 12/23/38 - 837 - Bids received on 7th contract on Circumferential Pkwy.
- ✓ 12/23/38 - 838 - Bronx Playgrounds Operatta to give performances of "Pirates of Penzance".
- ✓ 12/1938 - 838-A - Progress of Park Dept. - 1934 - 1938

The Department of Parks announces that J. S.
(shipwreck) Kelly, part owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers
professional football team, is making a gift to the
Central Park Zoo of a young chimpanzee.

The animal is due to arrive in New York on
the steamship "Robin Gray" on July 5th.

July 1, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release 964

SATURDAY,
JULY 2, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces the opening today of three new playgrounds and one redesigned and enlarged playground.

In Queens, at 14th Street south of 31st Avenue adjacent to the Astoria Health Center, the new playground is equipped with swings, see-saws, play houses, slide, sand pit and a portable shower. A brick comfort station with facilities for boys and girls, and permanent concrete benches are also provided. The perimeter of the entire playground is landscaped with shade trees.

In Brooklyn, at New York and Clarkson Avenues, the new playground has see-saws, slides, swings, a portable shower, a play house, jungle gym and an open play area for group games. A brick building with slate roof houses comfort facilities for boys and girls. Permanent concrete benches and shade trees are included in the landscape scheme.

At 23rd Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues, the playground has swings, see-saws, a slide, a sand table, a play house, a portable shower and an open play area for group games. Here, also, permanent concrete benches and shade trees are part of the landscape treatment.

At Avenue P and East Fourth Street, this playground has been redesigned and an additional area added. The new facilities include handball, shuffleboard, horseshoe pitching courts, a rectangular area, encircled by a roller-skating track, which can be used for ice-skating in winter and for basketball, volley ball, paddle tennis and soft ball during the rest of the year, and permanent concrete benches and shade trees. A modern brick comfort station with facilities for boys and girls is included in the design.

These three playgrounds make a total of 261 which have been added to the Park Department's recreational system since January 1934. The total number available today is 369.

The work was performed by the Works Progress Administration, but planned and inspected by the Department of Parks.

The New York City Parkway Authority announces that wrecking contractors are demolishing structures within the area of the proposed ocean front parkway between Beach 73rd and Beach 109th Streets in Rockaway, along the connections between the parkway and Beach Channel Drive, and within the area of the approaches to the Cross Bay Parkway Bridge over Beach Channel. Contracts were awarded by the New York City Parkway Authority to four contractors on June 11, 1938. Considerable headway is being made and the demolition will be completed on July 30, 1938, in time to allow construction of the improvement to start with a minimum of delay.

Of the approximately 500 structures to be demolished, - bungalows and small structures of frame construction, old and undesirable, form the major part. The amusement parks between Beach 96th and Beach 105th Streets are also in the area to be cleared.

The ocean front parkway will occupy a strip of land approximately 200 feet wide on the north side of and adjoining the existing boardwalk, 100 feet will be used for east and west traffic arteries and the balance left for the protection of the boardwalk and the development of beach game areas. From the parkway, connections will be provided at Beach 73rd and Beach 108th Streets to Beach Channel Drive and between Beach 94th and Beach 95th Streets to the Cross Bay Parkway Bridge. The area at the north approach to the Cross Bay Parkway Bridge is being cleared of existing construction under the present contracts.

Cross Bay Parkway Bridge will connect the Rockaway Peninsula with Cross Bay Boulevard adjacent to the existing bridge. Bids for the construction of the Cross Bay Parkway Bridge have recently been opened and the contract awarded. The work will consist of repairing and changing the existing

viaduct and bascule bridge and providing a new viaduct, and bascule bridge west of the existing structure. The present bridge will be used for northbound traffic and the new viaduct and bascule bridge, of approximately the same width as the existing structure, will be used for southbound traffic, thus doubling the traffic capacity of the present bridge and eliminating the bottleneck at the entrance to the Rockaways. Construction contracts for grading and paving the parkway and the bridge approaches will be advertised in a few weeks. The entire project will be complete on June 1, 1939.

The work of demolishing existing construction is being done under four contracts at a total cost of \$43,685.

The improvements will not prevent bathing this summer and the present Cross Bay Boulevard will not be closed to traffic at any time during reconstruction.

July 1, 1938.

PARK DEPARTMENT FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN DURING SUMMER MONTHS

The Department of Parks announces that it has open for the use of children who have been released from the discipline of school, and who will be marooned in the City during July & August 369 playgrounds and recreational areas from 9 A.M. until 9 P.M. These playgrounds are equipped with various units of equipment and many of them have facilities for activities of all age groups.

The majority of these playgrounds accommodate not only children of pre-school age but also the boy or girl up to 18 years of age.

The swimming pools of the Park Department are open from 9 A.M. until 10 P.M. and during the morning, the swimming pools are free for children under 14 years of age. In the afternoon, the children pay 10 cents for admission. The Department of Parks outdoor swimming pools are as follows:

<u>MANHATTAN</u>	Hamilton Fish Pool	East Houston & Sheriff Streets
	Colonial Pool	Bradhurst Avenue, W.145 to 147 Street
	Highbridge Pool	Amsterdam Avenue and 173 Street
	Thomas Jefferson Pool	111 to 114 Streets and First Avenue
<u>BROOKLYN</u>	Sunset Pool	7th Avenue and 43 Street
	McCarren Pool	Nassau Avenue and Lorimer Street
	Red Hook Pool	Clinton, Bay and Henry Streets
	Betsy Head	Hopkinson, Dumont and Livonia Streets
<u>BRONX</u>	Crotona Pool	173 Street and Fulton Avenue
<u>QUEENS</u>	Astoria Pool	Barclay Street and 24th Drive
<u>RICHMOND</u>	Faber Pool	Faber Street between Richmond Terrace and Kill Van Kull
	Tompkinsville Pool	Arrietta Street at Pier #6

Indoor swimming pools under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks are free to children from 9 A.M. until 6 P.M. daily and are located as follows:

<u>MANHATTAN</u>	35 West 134th Street, Manhattan
	Clarkson and 7th Avenue, Manhattan
	5 Rutgers Place, Manhattan
	342 East 54th Street, Manhattan
	409 West 28th Street, Manhattan
<u>BROOKLYN</u>	Metropolitan and Bedford Avenues, Brooklyn

During the summer months, the Park Department will sponsor an extended summer program and promote many tournaments and activities for children including a softball tournament, volley ball tournament, checker tournament, chess tournament, paddle tennis tournament, jacks contest, punchball for girls, and a ping-pong tournament for boys and girls.

Other facilities in playgrounds include handball courts, basketball courts and wading pools. There is a wading pool or a shower located in all of the playgrounds under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. These wading pools attract thousands of children during the summer months and provide healthful, refreshing, recreational activity for children from three to nine years of age.

Handcraft activities are arranged for at locations where there are field houses. Other activities include folk dancing, dramatics and glee clubs.

Parents are urged to send their children to the recreational facilities of the Department of Parks, staffed by trained supervisors during the summer months. There they will be free from the risk of various hazards accompanying play in streets.

* * *

July 1st, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

767
For Release

For release July 5, 1938

The entourage of the Crown Prince of Sweden will take occasion on Tuesday, July 5th to make a sight-seeing trip by motor.

At 9:30 A.M. the party, which is staying at the Hotel Barclay, will be met by the members of the Mayor's Swedish Reception Committee and will be escorted to a fleet of thirty automobiles, twelve of which will be City owned cars and the balance loaned for the occasion by the Mayor's Committee.

The trip will get under way at 10 o'clock and will proceed directly crosstown to the West Side Highway and go up along the Henry Hudson Parkway to Fort Tryon Park where a brief stop will be made for the magnificent Hudson River view. Returning south along the Henry Hudson Parkway, the party will motor across the George Washington Bridge to the New Jersey entrance plaza where it will turn around and return to New York. The route then continues along Fort Washington Avenue past the Presbyterian Hospital so that the party can get a glimpse of the temporary resting place of the Crown Prince. From this point on the itinerary proceeds via Broadway, 155th Street and Seventh Avenue to 124th Street and the Triborough Bridge. The Randall's Island Stadium will be viewed from the Bridge and the party will then proceed to the Astoria Pool on the Queens side where they will view the free children's swimming period. Returning to the cars, the route will be along the Grand Central Parkway and Northern State Parkway to Jones Beach.

State troopers will pick up the escort detail at the city line, relieving the twelve New York City motorcycle patrolmen. At Jones Beach the visitors will see a pool show at the West Bath House and will then proceed to the Boardwalk Cafe where a buffet luncheon will be served at 12:45. Mr. Herbert Bayard Swope, of the Long Island State Park Commission, will act as host at the luncheon.

At two o'clock the party will resume the motor trip, proceeding directly to the World's Fair where a fifteen minute motor tour of the grounds is scheduled. At 3:45 the motor trip will be terminated at Radio City, where the visitors will be taken backstage to watch the Rockettes in action.

The trip will be under the joint auspices of the New York City Park Department and the Long Island State Park Commission. Mr. Arthur E. Howland, Chief Engineer of the latter Commission, will take care of the details after the party has crossed the city line on its way to Jones Beach, while Allyn R. Jennings, General Superintendent of the City Park Department is in charge of the balance of the trip.

In addition to the Mayor's Swedish Welcoming Committee, the following members of the Swedish Delegation will make the trip:

Mr. August Savstrom, Speaker of the Second Chamber of the Riksdag; Mrs. Savstrom and son

Mr. Karl Schlyter, President of the Court of Appeals for Skane and Blekinge, former Minister of Justice; and Mrs. Schlyter

Mr. Herman Eriksson, President of the Royal Board of Trade; and Mrs. Eriksson

Mr. Bernhard Eriksson, Governor of Province, former Minister of the Navy

Mr. Sigurd Curman, Ph. D., Custodian of the Antiquities of the Realm

The Right Reverend Edvard Rodhe, D. T., Bishop of Lund; and Mrs. Rodhe

The Right Reverend Gustaf Karl Ljunggren, D. T., Bishop of Skara; and Mrs. Ljunggren

Mr. Osten Unden, LL.D., Chancellor for the Universities, former Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Hanna Rydh, Ph. D., Archeologist

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

For release July 5, 1938

Page 2

Mr. Sigfrid Hansson, Ph. D., President of the Royal Social Board

Mr. Knut Emil Lundmark, Ph. D., Professor of Astronomy

Mr. Yngve Hugo, Lecturer; and Mrs. Hugo

Mr. Johan Johansson, Chairman of the City Council of Stockholm;
and Mrs. Johansson

Lieutenant General G. R. J. Akerman, Vice Chairman of the City
Council of Stockholm; and Mrs. Akerman

Mr. Gunnar Fant, Mayor of Stockholm

Mr. Ernst Birger Jungen, Chairman of the City Council of
Goteborg; and Mrs. Jungen

Miss Kerstin Hesselgren, Member of the Second Chamber of the
Riksdag

Mr. Oscar Falkman, Civil Engineer, President of the Boliden
Mining Corporation; and Mrs. Falkman

Miss Inga Falkman

Mr. Bo von Stockenstrom, former Minister of Agriculture

Mr. Albin Johansson, President of the Kooperativa Forbundet
(Cooperative Union)

Mr. Axel Gjores, Editor, Member of the Board of Directors of the
Cooperative Union

Mr. Ove Olsson

Commander Sten Dehlgren, Editor of Dagens Nyheter, Chairman of
the Editors' Club; and Mrs. Dehlgren

Mr. Vilhelm Lundstrom, Professor, Chairman of the Executive
Committee

Mr. C. A. Sawenberg, representing The Methodist Church

Mr. Sigfrid Edstrom, Chairman of The Royal Swedish New Sweden
Commission; and Mrs. Edstrom

Count Folke Bernadotte af Wisborg, Vice Chairman of The Royal
Swedish New Sweden Commission

Mrs. Rickard Sandler, Wife of the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Major Herbert Jacobsson; and Mrs. Jacobsson

Mr. Olof Lamm, former Consul General at New York; and Mrs. Lamm

Mr. Joseph Sachs, Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of
Stockholm

Dr. and Mrs. I. Coklijn

Mrs. Edstrom-Nystromer

Miss Kerstin Johansson

For release July 5, 1938

Page 3

Miss Ulla Johansson

Mr. Gustaf Geger

Mr. Eric Scharping

Mr. Thorsten Hanson

Mr. Stellan Wulff

Mr. Erik Wijk

Mr. and Mrs. Arvid Oberg

E N D

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

768
For Release SATURDAY
JULY 9, 1938.

The Department of Parks announces that a two and one half mile section of Long Island Motor Parkway extending from Horace Harding Boulevard to Alley Pond Park, will be opened on Saturday, July 9, at 11 A. M., for the exclusive use of bicyclists.

Commissioner of Parks Robert Moses, Mrs. Charles B. Williams, Councilman James A. Burke and Mr. Otto Eisele, President of the Amateur Bicyclists of America, will participate in official ceremonies at the intersection of the Parkway and Horace Harding Boulevard. Following the speaking, from 300 to 500 bike riders will take part in a parade over the Parkway.

The Department of Parks fifty piece band, a parade of old bikes and trick bicycle riding will also be included in the program. For the past two weeks the Department of Parks has been working to prepare the road for cyclists. Guard rails have been installed, directional signs erected and approaches constructed. A bicycle concession operated by Ted Peckham has been established at the Alley Pond Field House where besides facilities for hiring out bicycles, instructions in riding, repairing of bicycles, sales of cycles and accessories, storage of bicycles and checking of personal property, there is an adjacent parking area for those arriving in automobiles. Bicycles may be hired for 35¢ per hour with a \$2.00 deposit; storage will be \$2.00 per month for each bicycle; instructions will be made at the rate of \$1.00 per hour for each person and clothing will be checked for ten cents per person.

The path will be open every day from 8 A.M. until dark. It will be operated by uniformed park attendants and patrolled by mounted police.

The outmoded Motor Parkway which winds for more than fifty miles from Horace Harding Boulevard to Lake Ronkonkoma, was given last Fall by William K. Vanderbilt to the Department of Parks, the Long Island State Park Commission, the State Department of Public Works and the Highway Department of Nassau and Suffolk Counties. It was built as a sportsman's enterprise in the early automobile days. In 1908, 1909 and 1910, the Vanderbilt Cup Auto Races were held over the Parkway. After the World War it was open as a toll road but in recent years could not compete with the Parkway system.

Every Sunday at 10:30 A.M., the All American Bus Lines will run buses to the bicycle path from 246 West 42nd Street, New York City.

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✓
JULY 8, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

Last copy
For Release **IMMEDIATELY**

769

The Department of Parks announces that yesterday it received as a gift from Mr. Louis Kasin, an importer, one white, (albino) turtle.

This rare specimen is being identified and classified today by the Authorities at the Museum of Natural History and photographs of it may be taken at the Central Park Zoo starting Saturday, July 9.

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JULY 8, 1938

TOURNAMENTS TO BE CONDUCTED IN
PARK DEPARTMENT PLAYGROUNDS DURING
MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST

The Department of Parks announces that a variety of tournaments of both the active and passive types of recreation will be conducted for boys and girls of Park Department playgrounds during the months of July and August.

Experience has demonstrated that many children are not physically capable of bearing the heat and burden of active games during warm weather, and the children who do participate in active recreation of one sort or another welcome the transition to a state of relaxation and intellectual stimulus provided by quiet games such as checkers, chess and jacks in the quietude and coolness of a shady corner in the playground.

Any boy or girl, who has not reached his 16th birthday is eligible to compete in the Checker Tournament which will commence in all Park Department playgrounds on Monday, July 11th. Each borough will conduct its own finals to select the two best players (either girls or boys) to represent the borough in the city-wide finals which will take place at Heckscher Playground, Central Park, July 21st at 2 P.M.

A Chess Tournament will be held in all Park Playgrounds on Monday, July 11th for boys 14 to 17 years of age. Borough eliminations will take place within a short time thereafter to determine the player who is most conversant with the intricate moves and strategic manouvering of 'pieces' to represent the borough in the city championship tourney, which will take place at Heckscher Playground, Central Park, July 21st at 2 P.M.

Gold and silver medals will be awarded to the first and second place winners of the City Finals in both the Checker and Chess Tournaments, Bronze medals will be awarded to the borough finalists.

A contest in "Jacks", the game that is popular with every girl, will take place in Park Department Playgrounds beginning the first week in August. Girls 15 years of age and under are eligible to enter the contest. The City Finals, at which the 2 best girls from each of the 5 boroughs will compete for the City Championship, will be held at Heckscher Playground, Central Park, August 25th at 2 P.M.

Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the city finals.

In the active game classification, the following tournaments will take place as follows:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Finals-Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
Paddle Tennis	Boys & Girls 13 to 15 years Singles & Doubles	July 27	Roosevelt Plgd., Manhattan
	Boys & Girls 14 to 17 years Singles & Doubles		
	A singles player cannot be a member of doubles team.		
Ping Pong	Boys & Girls 10 to 14 years	August 9	Heckscher Plgd., Central Park
	Boys & Girls 14 to 17 years		
Baseball	Boys - 16 years of age & under	August 16	North Meadow, Central Park
Punch Ball	Girls- 16 years of age & under	August 22	Heckscher Plgd., Central Park

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the city finals of each of the above tournaments.

Any boy or girl who is interested in entering the tournaments, whether they are of the active or passive game type, is requested to apply to the playground director in charge of the Park Department playground nearest his home. Early registration is important because unless a contestant participates in the preliminary stages of elimination for each tournament, he is ineligible to represent his borough in the city finals.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release 771
7/7/38

Immediately

COMMUNITY SINGING
WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK

The Department of Parks announces that community singing will be inaugurated at Washington Square Park, Sunday, July 10, at 4 P.M. This venture into outdoor community singing is sponsored by the "Villager League of Friendship" and will be an enjoyable and popular resumption of the successful series of indoor singings conducted during the winter seasons, and on one occasion in the park.

Mr. Allen Henckley, formerly with "The Bostonians", the Metropolitan Opera Company and director of the Village Light Opera Group, has consented to lead the singing. He will be assisted at each of these gatherings by Mrs. Ivor Inness, who is well known professionally as Gertrude Hutchinson, former radio accompanist and guest artist.

Arrangements have been made to bring the Harmony Trumpeters, directed by Harman R. Clark, as guest artists for the early programs.

Community singing has proved to be a source of such great joy and gaiety that the Washington Square gatherings will continue throughout the summer season.

The program has been prepared with painstaking care so that the fullest measure of delight and satisfaction will be insured. Arrangements for the appearance of guest artists of well known reputation will be made from time to time.

The Department of Parks announces that another new baseball diamond at Randall's Island will be opened for play starting July 15, 1938. This will be the third diamond to be completed here.

Baseball is another facility to be added to the vast recreation center which has superseded the former House of Refuge at Randall's Island.

When the project is completed there will be besides the Stadium which has been used for track and field events, - soccer, football, rugby, concerts and operettas, a fully equipped children's playground, basketball and shuffleboard courts, 8 baseball diamonds and 27 tennis courts, 25 of which will be clay and 2 turf surfaced. The 2 turf courts will be used for exhibition games.

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JULY 12, 1938

INSTALLATION OF AN EIGHT FOOT CHAIN
LINK FENCE ALONG THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY
OF FLUSHING MEADOW PARK.

The Department of Parks announces that bids were opened on July 11th for the installation of approximately 11,700 linear feet of an eight foot high chain link fence along the westerly boundary of Flushing Meadow Park.

This fence will be installed in the park on the east side of the west service road, and will completely protect the westerly side of the park from Northern Boulevard to Union Turnpike.

The three lowest bidders were:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Ross Galvanizing Works, Brooklyn, N. Y. | \$16,357.40 |
| 2. American Chain and Cable Company | 17,316.00 |
| 3. Wickwire Spencer Steel Company
41 East 42 Street
New York City | 17,491.50 |

The work will be completed by October 1st, 1938.

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JULY 13, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

774

IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that community singing will be conducted in a number of different locations throughout the City. The singing at Washington Square Park on Sunday afternoon, July 10th, was so successful that it was decided to extend this activity to all boroughs.

Community singing, conducted under the auspices of the Department of Parks will start on Sunday, July 17th at 3:30 P.M., and continue on Sundays at the same time, at the following locations:

- MANHATTAN - The Mall, Central Park, 72nd Street
- QUEENS - Music Grove, Forest Park, Myrtle Avenue and Union Turnpike
- BRONX - Poe Park, Grand Concourse and 192 Street

On July 23, at the Music Grove, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, and on July 24, at Wolfe's Pond Park, Richmond, this community singing will start at 3:30 P.M. and continue on Saturdays in Brooklyn and on Sundays in Richmond for the duration of the summer season, at the same hour.

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JULY 13, 1938

Library

775

For Release _____

IMMEDIATELY

The Long Island State Park Commission and the Department of Parks of the City of New York announce that with the termination of the present week's productions of operettas on Saturday, July 16 at the Marine Stadium at Jones Beach State Park and on Sunday, July 17, at Randall's Island, these enterprises will be discontinued for the balance of the season.

Discontinuance of these performances was made necessary because of the serious difficulties which the producers, Messrs. Shubert and Gallo, have had with the various theatrical Unions coupled with the bad weather in the early part of the season and the consequent falling off of attendance under that of previous years.

At Jones Beach on Wednesday and Saturday evenings there will be special fireworks and swimming and diving shows in place of the operettas, and the use of the Marine Stadium for other events on other evenings is being studied by the Commission. The Stadium will continue to be used for water events in the daytime.

At Randall's Island, there will be baseball Sunday afternoons in the Stadium starting July 24 and continuing through September; and other events will be arranged for evenings. The next afternoon event will be the Hibernian Track Meet next Sunday afternoon.

- E N D -

JULY 13, 1938

PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST

The Department of Parks announces that an amateur photographic contest, depicting "Youth and Age in our City Parks and Playgrounds", will take place in all the parks and park playgrounds of New York City.

This will be the first time a photographic contest has been held by the Department of Parks. The recreational supervisors have reported that there is considerable interest in photography by persons of all ages; and in some of the boroughs, camera clubs have been organized by the playground directors.

The Park Association of New York City will sponsor this contest in cooperation with the Department of Parks. The rules governing the conduct of the contest are as follows:

1. To be eligible, all pictures must have been taken during 1938, before September 10th, in parks, parkways, pools, beaches or playgrounds under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks.
2. Pictures must be at least 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "x 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", and the print must be a glossy print.
3. The name and address of the amateur photographer should be clearly written on the reverse side of each picture.
4. The decisions of the judges will be final in all cases.
5. The Department of Parks reserves the right to reproduce any picture submitted, for park purposes.
6. Negatives must be submitted.
7. Contest closes September 10, 1938.
8. Contest is open to persons of all ages.
9. Contestants may submit not more than five different pictures in this contest, depicting activities of either one or both of the following classes:

"Youth and Age in our City Parks and Playgrounds"

Class "A": Spring and Summer Activities.

Class "B": Fall and Winter Activities.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release

Appropriate prizes will be awarded to the contestants who submit the four best pictures, after they have complied with all rules and regulations and any further conditions designated by the judges. No contestant can win more than one prize. The prizes have been donated by The Park Association of New York City, R. H. Macy & Company, Davoga City Radio, Inc., and Willoughby's. Fifth and sixth prizes will consist of certificates of merit from the Department of Parks.

The following persons have been invited to act as judges of the contest:

HONORARY CHAIRMAN - Mrs. Arthur Hayes Sulzberger,
President of Park Association

Paul J. Woolf
John Gass
Samuel Gottscho

Contestants should submit the pictures to the Borough Directors of their respective boroughs at the following addresses:

MANHATTAN - Mr. Kenneth S. Franklin, Arsenal Building,
Central Park, 64 Street & Fifth Avenue, N.Y.C.

BROOKLYN - Mr. Richard C. Jenkins, Litchfield Mansion,
5th St. and Prospect Park West, Bklyn., N.Y.

QUEENS - Mr. Philip J. Cruise, Overlook, Forest Park,
Kew Gardens, Long Island, N. Y.

BRONX - Mr. George L. Quigley, East Bronx and Birchall
Avenue, The Bronx.

RICHMOND - Mr. James J. Mallen, Clove Lakes, New Brighton,
Staten Island, N. Y.

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JULY 13, 1938

REPAVING OF GRAND CENTRAL PARKWAY
EXTENSION BETWEEN ST. MICHAEL'S
CEMETERY AND UNION TURNPIKE.

The Department of Parks announces that bids were opened on July 11, for the repaving of Grand Central Parkway Extension between St. Michael's Cemetery and Union Turnpike. This work is divided into two sections. The northerly section of the parkway from Northern Boulevard to St. Michael's Cemetery, which is approximately 2.4 miles in length, will be repaved with cement concrete pavement and will consist of two thirty-three foot pavements separated by a ten foot grass island. In general, the grades will approximately coincide with the grades of the existing bituminous macadam pavement.

The southerly section of the parkway from Horace Harding Boulevard to Union Turnpike, which is approximately 1.8 miles in length will be widened with a bituminous macadam pavement similar to the existing pavement about thirteen feet along the easterly side. The existing bituminous macadam pavement will be brought to the new grades required in the ultimate development of Flushing Meadow Park. Here, the new parkway will consist of a twenty-two foot eastbound and a twenty-four foot westbound roadways separated by a nine foot island.

A parkway lighting system will be installed in the grass island and a strip ten feet in width along the easterly boundary of the new parkway will be topsoiled in the southerly section.

The three lowest bidders were:

1.	Tuckahoe Construction Co., Tuckahoe, N. Y.	\$539,620.00
2.	B. Turecamo Contracting Co., Brooklyn, N.Y.	546,555.80
3.	Rusciano & Son Corp., 728 E. 212 St., N.Y.C. (Alternate "A")	553,184.00
	(Alternate "B")	551,866.50

The work will be completed in January, 1939.

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JULY 13, 1938

Library

778
For Release _____

IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that due to the tremendous play on the municipal golf courses, which to date is 15% over last year and 30% over 1936, it will be necessary to close the courses in Queens and The Bronx one day each week during July and August to give them a rest. The greens will be spiked and top-dressed to prevent them from becoming worn out, and many temporary greens will be installed, as there has been heavy damage from the continuous rains.

Following is a schedule showing the days which the various courses will be closed:

- Kissena - Monday
- Pelham - Monday

- Clearview - Tuesday
- Mosholu - Tuesday

- Forest Park - Wednesday
- Split Rock - Wednesday

- Van Cortlandt - Thursday

The play on the two courses in Staten Island is not as heavy as it is on the other city courses, so neither of them will be closed; and as it is the only golf course in Brooklyn, Dyker Beach will not be closed unless it is found to be impossible to keep it in satisfactory condition.

JULY 24, 1938.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS FOR PERSONS OVER 50 YEARS OF AGE INCLUDING CHECKER
AND CHESS TOURNAMENTS DURING AUGUST.

The Department of Parks announces that checker and chess tournaments will be conducted during the month of August for men and women who have passed the first half century mark of life.

The recreational facilities provided by the Department of Parks and the comprehensive program of recreational activities have afforded these older folks ample opportunity for indulgence in that sport or activity which is most conducive to their enjoyment.

Besides some of the passive activities such as concerts, dramatics and the various playground contests, tournaments and athletic events at which the older folks attend in great numbers, there are activities in which they actively participate such as horseshoe pitching, shuffleboard, golf, croquet, lawn bowling, model yacht sailing, boating, swimming, fishing, hiking and social dancing.

Special programs have been prepared for the purpose of attracting persons of advanced years. In the past, numerous groups of men about 50 years of age from various sections of the city and nearby towns in Westchester, Long Island and New Jersey responded to the call of the Park Department for entrants in the now celebrated "Barbershop Quartet Contest" and "Hill Billy Contest", both of which contests will be held again this year.

Constantly exploring new fields for potential sources of recreational adventure and ever alert to experiment with fun, the Department of Parks has inaugurated an amateur photographic contest depicting "Youth and Age in our City Parks and Playgrounds". This contest is open to persons of all ages and will close on September 10th.

Close observation of Park Department playgrounds, particularly during the warm days of summer, will reveal large groups of men and women, comfortably seated under the shade of trees, engaged in checker and chess competition. It was decided that the city champion of checker and chess in Park playgrounds among these who profess to be at least two score and ten should no longer be left to conjecture. Therefore, checker and chess tournaments will be held the latter part of August to determine the respective champions of that age group.

America's Good Will Union and other Civic Organizations have indicated their willingness to cooperate with the Department of Parks in conducting the checker and chess tournaments for persons over 50 years of age by obtaining entrants from various homes where the folks pass leisure moments in playing these games.

Upon completion of the checker and chess tournaments for both the young and older age groups, it is planned to have the champion of each group play each other for the championship of all ages. This contest will present an excellent opportunity for the amateur photographers who intend to enter the Park Department photographic contest depicting "Youth and Age" to get a beautiful picture of youth and age competing in the age old games of chess and checkers.

The eliminations of the checker and chess tournaments for men and women over 50 years of age will take place on Monday, August 22nd, at 2 P.M. at the following locations in the various boroughs:

- BROOKLYN - Concert Grove, Prospect Park -
Entrance at Flatbush Avenue and Empire Boulevard.
- MANHATTAN - Heckscher Playground, Central Park -
Entrance at 64th Street and Fifth Avenue.
- QUEENS - Greenhouse Playground, Forest Park -
Entrance at Woodhaven Boulevard and Myrtle Avenue.
- BRONX - Poe Park - East 192nd Street, Grand Concourse and
Kingsbridge Road.
- RICHMOND - McDonald Playground - Forest and Myrtle Avenues.

The finals will be held at Heckscher Playground, Central Park, Wednesday, August 31st, at 2 P.M.

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the finals.

Men and women over 50 years of age who are desirous of competing in either the checker or chess tournaments are requested to apply to the Playground Director in charge of the playground nearest his home. Participation in the eliminations is essential before one is eligible to enter the finals.

JULY 27, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

780

For Release IMMEDIATELY

It has been brought to the attention of the Department of Parks that in past years, life guards along Rockaway Beach have solicited funds from cottage holders and other summer tenants, for a Life Guards' Ball. In some cases cottage tenants report that they have even been threatened unless they contributed.

All residents of the Rockaways are informed that such solicitation of funds by an employee of the Park Department for any purpose whatsoever, is prohibited. The Department will appreciate receiving information on any activity of this kind.

- E N D -

JULY 27, 1938

PLAYGROUND CHILDREN'S DANCE FESTIVAL

The Department of Parks announces that the girls of Park Department playgrounds in the Borough of Brooklyn are attending regular practice sessions in preparation for the Annual Dance Festival, which will take place on the Long Meadow, Prospect Park, Saturday, August 20, at 2:30 P. M.

This Dance Festival is one of the outstanding features of the recreational program prepared for the children of Brooklyn's playgrounds. Thousands of spectators attend the dancing exhibition annually and such a high standard of terpsichorean ability has been established that the girls are eager to perpetuate the enviable reputation attained in past performances.

In addition to learning the steps of various dances, the children are taught how to make the costumes which they wear for the dances. These costumes play an important part in the estimate of the judges when they come to determine the three best dancing groups. Therefore, each dancer will devote a great deal of time and effort to the making of costumes since the appearance of the costume will add to or detract from the dancing performance.

The Dance Festival will consist of eight dances with approximately 100 children participating in each dance. Each dancer is a registered member of one of the Park Department playgrounds in the Borough of Brooklyn.

Plaques will be awarded to the three best dancing groups,

The dances which will be given and the sections of Brooklyn represented by the dancers are as follows:

<u>Name of Dance</u>	<u>Section Represented</u>
Little Dutch Mill	Coney Island
English Reel In Swing Time	Red Hook and Carroll Park
Snow White and the Dwarfs	Borough Hall
Robin Hood	Bushwick
Minuet	Williamsburg and Greenpoint
Military Tap	Brownsville
Where Has My Little Dog Gone	Flatbush and Sheepshead Bay
In a Persian Market	Bay Ridge and Gravesend

Girls under sixteen years of age who are desirous of participating in the Dance Festival are requested to communicate with the Playground Director in charge of the Park Department playground nearest her home. Early registration is advisable in order that as much time as possible may be devoted to the mastery of the intricate steps at the various instruction classes which are in progress at the present time.

July 27, 1938.

ST. MARY'S PARK - BRONX

The Department of Parks will take bids on August 12th, 1938, for the reconstruction of St. Mary's Park, Bronx, for which the Board of Estimate appropriated \$138,000. today.

The work will consist of a development of the east section of the park as a large recreational area. The development will contain two full size baseball diamonds, a new children's playground, and the existing tennis courts will be improved. Several new horseshoe pitching courts will also be constructed. A broad tree-shaded mall will extend north and south from St. Mary's Street to Trinity Avenue. Walks in the old section of the park will be realigned, resurfaced, and a new comfort station constructed.

The present recreational facilities in this park are entirely inadequate and baseball has been played on a rough unfinished diamond. The new diamonds will be two of the best in the entire city. The field will be laid out so that football may be played in season.

The money for the construction of this improvement was obtained by an arrangement with the Department of Education whereby certain lands in Macombs Dam Park were transferred to that department by the Department of Parks.

- E N D -

JULY 28, 1938.

As a sequel to the Park Department's Traveling Farm Yard which has completed its tour of the city playgrounds, a seven ton trellised trailer, seventeen feet long and seven feet wide, has been arranged and labeled by the Park Department with tiers of flowers, interesting plants, garden implements and other reminders of life in the country.

This "Bit of Country" on wheels will begin its tour of the city playgrounds on Monday, August 1st., at 10:00 A.M. and will make its first stop at Roosevelt Playground, Forsythe and Stanton Streets.

The trailer has a platform with steps on each side from which the horticultural exhibit may be viewed. Petunias, marigolds, zinnias, fuchsias and other new and old fashioned flowers will lend color to the more sombre plants of mint, thyme, sage, cotton, sweet potato, tobacco, etc., corn, tomatoes and peanuts have been grown in pots and will also be displayed.

A plant of Poison Ivy in a special glass case, and two varieties of Rag Wood, will be exhibited with timely suggestions for their avoidance.

The rear end of the trailer will have a model window box and a display of garden implements. In addition there will be an exhibit of beneficial and destructive insect life. A Weather Vane on the top of the trailer will complete the rural picture.

Attendants will accompany the exhibit to answer questions and explain the names and uses of the various plants, flowers and other parts of the exhibit; which might be of only passing interest to country youngsters, but puzzling and entertaining to those who spend their vacation on the city streets.

The list of Playgrounds and the dates on which the exhibit will be shown is as follows:

MANHATTAN

August 1st, 2nd	Roosevelt Playground	Forsythe & Stanton Sts.
" 3rd, 4th	Corlears Hook Playground	Jackson & Cherry Sts.
" 5th, 6th, 7th	Tompkins Playground	East 10th St., Ave. "A"
" 8th, 9th	Seward Playground	E. B'way, & Hoster St.
" 10th, 11th	John Jay Playground	E. River & 76th St.
" 12th, 13th, 14th	Washington Sq. Playground	Washington Square

BRONX

August 15th, 16th	Crotona Playground	Charlotte St, Crotona Park E.
" 17th, 18th	St. James Playground	E. 192nd St., Jerome Ave.
" 19th, 20th, 21st	St. Mary's Playground	Trinity Ave., 147th St.

BROOKLYN

August 22nd, 23rd	McCarron Playground	Lorimer & Bayard Sts.
" 24th, 25th, 26th	Lindsay Playground	Borough & Leonard Sts.
" 27th, 28th	Pitkin Ave & New Jersey Ave	
" 29th, 30th	Lincoln Terrace	Eastern P'kway, Lincoln Terr.
" 31st, Sept. 1, 2nd	Red Hook Park	Pioneer & Richard Sts.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

785 For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that the new Municipal Floating fresh water Baths anchored at 96 Street and the Hudson River, will open on August 5, at 10 A.M., without ceremonies.

The three barges that make up this bathing unit are part of six, all in various stages of disrepair, which, under the provision of the new City Charter, were inherited from the Borough President of Manhattan by the Park Department earlier this year, and comprises the only units that were found to be worth salvaging.

The Park Department went to work immediately to transfer these forty-nine year old barges into modern miniature Lidos with nautical railings, ladders and awnings. Super-structure and locker rooms were removed, new floorings installed and the barges otherwise altered so that they could be placed in operation to provide relief from discomfort during the hot days of this summer for West Side residents.

Each of the three barges measures 62' x 92', and the two to be used for bathing will have closed tanks 40' x 68', which will be 4' 6" deep. The third barge which will serve as the locker house will have dressing, checking, shower and toilet facilities, as well as a first-aid station.

Men, women and children will be permitted to use the facility at the same time with separate tanks for children and adults. A basket system for checking wearing apparel similar to that used at the twelve Park Department outdoor swimming pools will be installed to provide a greater use of dressing facilities.

This new facility will be open during daylight hours and operated in the same manner and at the same rates as the outdoor swimming pools have been for the past two years, which provide that children under 14 years of age can swim free on weekdays from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. After 1 P.M. on weekdays and all day on Saturday, Sunday and holidays, there is a ten cents charge for children under 14 years of age and a twenty cents charge for all others.

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AUGUST 4, 1938

Library

786

For Release IMMEDIATELY

Commissioner Moses announced today that a ceremony will be held at the City Hall Post Office Monday afternoon, August 15 at 4:00 P. M. in connection with the start of demolition of the old Post Office. Mayor LaGuardia will officiate at the ceremony.

This eyesore is to be removed after months of negotiating with federal authorities for its transfer to the city. The city's bid of \$1.00 for the structure was finally accepted and bonds approved by the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department. The contract has been let to the John J. Abramsen Company, Inc. They will be paid \$63,400 for their work on this structure.

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AUGUST 10, 1938

Library

487
For Release _____

IMMEDIATELY

For the past few weeks, life guards at the beaches under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks have been practicing daily for a life guard meet to be held at Jacob Riis Park Wednesday afternoon, August 24th. On Friday, August 12th, eliminations will be held among the life guards at each beach to determine the make-up of the teams which will represent their respective beaches in the tournament at Jacob Riis Park.

There have been seven events scheduled to determine the beach championship and the individual life guard championship. Each beach is limited to an eight man team with the two best life guards from each beach competing for the individual championship.

Events will consist of boat rescues, rescues with and without equipment for both team and individual. The team scoring the most points will be awarded with a trophy emblematic of the championship, which will remain in its possession for one year. The beach receiving this for three years, will retain permanent possession of the trophy. There will be a trophy awarded to the individual life guard champion who scores the most points in the meet. Medals will be awarded to those men who finish first, second and third in each event.

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AUGUST 11, 1938



ROBERT MOSES
COMMISSIONER

Library 788
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL
64TH STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE
CENTRAL PARK
NEW YORK CITY

31A-2



NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR ©

ALLYN R. JENNINGS
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
WILLIAM H. LATHAM
PARK ENGINEER
GEORGE E. SPARGO
ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSIONER
JAMES A. DAWSON
SENIOR PARK DIRECTOR
JAMES A. SHERRY
CHIEF CLERK

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESS:

As the result of repeated inquiries and numerous complaints with reference to closed school recreational facilities mistakenly addressed to the Park Department, I am attaching a memorandum which reiterates my position as to lack of cooperation by the Board of Education in recreation matters.

This situation has not appreciably improved in the last four years.

ROBERT MOSES

STATEMENT OF PARK COMMISSIONER

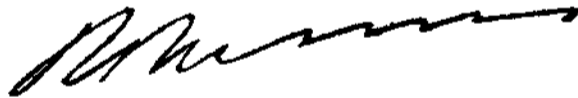
ON

BOARD OF EDUCATION RECREATIONAL FACILITIES
NOW SHUT UP, WHICH SHOULD BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
AND ON LACK OF COOPERATION WITH THE PARK DEPARTMENT.

1. Official Board of Education Playgrounds operate only four hours on week days, from 1:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. Playgrounds should be operated from 10 A.M. until dark.
2. 10 closed School Playgrounds should be open. (See list "A" attached.)
3. Board of Education Playgrounds are closed on Saturdays and Sundays during the entire summer.
4. All High School Athletic Fields are closed on Saturdays and Sundays, with the exception of Curtis High School Athletic Field in Richmond.
5. Seward High School Athletic Field located at Hester and Essex Streets, Manhattan, is closed all week; this field is in great demand and should be open all week.
6. All Board of Education Swimming Pools are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. 20 swimming pools, not in close proximity to Park Department Swimming Pools or Beaches, should be open on Saturdays and Sundays. (See list "B" attached.)
7. Teachers of Health Education in high schools receive two months summer vacation. Swimming teachers of the Board of Education, many of whom are assigned to supervise shower baths during the school year, likewise receive two months vacation during the summer months. Those swimming teachers were placed on a permanent schedule last year and should work during the summer when they are most needed.
8. There are 118 evening recreation centers open from October to May, from 7:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M., and some only 2 or 3 nights a week. At least 200 additional evening recreation centers should be open; and all recreation centers should be open from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M. five days each week.

Additional evening recreation centers will give so called cellar clubs a place to hold their meetings and conduct social and recreational activities in a wholesome atmosphere.

9. Board of Education stresses the so-called educational values of part-time highly organized play; while the Park Department emphasizes open play areas the year-round with an adequate opportunity for development of the child in proper surroundings through the playing of games in a fair and orderly manner without regimentation. The Board of Education thinks that teaching play in school hours meets a problem which is most serious out of school hours and in vacation time.
10. 700 students have petitioned the opening of the swimming pool at the new Brooklyn College during the summer months. This facility, however, is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Higher Education.



ROBERT MOSES

LIST "A"

10 CLOSED SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS SHOULD BE OPEN -

MANHATTAN

P. S. 93 - 93rd Street and Amsterdam Avenue

Inspected Sunday, July 31st at 4:50 P.M.

Inspected Monday, August 1st at 3:00 P.M.

P. S. 58 - 317 West 52nd Street

Inspected Saturday, July 30th at 1:45 P.M.

Inspected Monday, August 1st at 4:00 P.M.

P. S. 84 - 430 West 50th Street

Inspected Saturday, July 30th at 1:30 P.M.

Inspected Monday, August 1st at 4:05 P.M.

P. S. 61 - Avenue D and East 12th Street

Inspected Saturday, July 30th at 3:15 P.M.

Inspected Monday, August 1st at 3:35 P.M.

P. S. 36 - 710 East 9th Street

Inspected Saturday, July 30th at 3:25 P.M.

Inspected Monday, August 1st at 4:00 P.M.

P. S. 105 - 269 East 4th Street

Inspected Saturday, July 30th at 2:55 P. M.

Inspected Monday, August 1st at 2:45 P.M.

P. S. 77 - 28th Street and 1st Avenue

Inspected Monday, August 1st at 3:00 P.M.

P. S. 46 - 196th Street and Briggs Avenue

Inspected July 31st at 4:30 P.M.

QUEENS

P. S. 143 - 111th Street and 35th Avenue, Corona

Inspected Saturday, July 30th at 11:30 P.M.

P. S. 16 - 104th Street and 42nd Avenue, Corona

Inspected Sunday, July 31st at 7:30 P.M.

LIST "B"

20 Board of Education Swimming Pools not in close proximity to Park Department Swimming Pools or Beaches should be open on Saturdays and Sundays.

MANHATTAN

P.S. 11 - 21st Street, west of 8th Avenue

Commerce High School - 155 West 65th Street

Straubenmuller Textile High School - 351 West 18th Street

BRONX

P.S. 32 - 35th Street east of 9th Avenue

P.S. 40 - 20th Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues

De Witt Clinton High School - Mosholu Parkway and Sodgwick Avenue

Evander Childs High School - Bronxwood Avenue and Gun Hill Road

James Monroe High School - Boynton Avenue and East 172 Street

Theodore Roosevelt High School - Washington Avenue and Fordham Road

Walton High School - Reservoir and Jerome Avenues

BROOKLYN

P.S. 89 - Newkirk Avenue and East 32nd Street

Brooklyn Technical High School - De Kalb Avenue and Fort Greene Pl.

Erasmus Hall High School - Flatbush and Church Avenues

Franklin K. Lane High School - Evergreen Avenue and Covert Street

New Utrecht High School - 79th Street and 16th Avenue

Samuel J. Tilden High School - Tilden Avenue and East 57th Street

QUEENS

Andrew Jackson High School - 207-01 - 116 Avenue, St. Albans

Grover Cleveland High School - 2127 Himrod Street, Ridgewood

Jamaica High School - 167-01 Gothic Drive, Jamaica

Richmond Hill High School - 89-30 - 114th Street, Richmond Hill

End

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

789

For Release _____

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the annual American Ballad Contest, popularly known as the "Barber Shop Quartet" competition, and a Hill Billy contest will take place on the Mall, Central Park, Thursday, September 8th at 8:30 P.M.

To qualify for the finals, each quarter for the American Ballad Contest and each group trying for Hill Billy honors must participate in the eliminations of that borough in which one or all of their members reside. Quartets or troupes whose members reside outside of city limits but within the metropolitan area, may compete in any one of the borough eliminations provided they register with the Park Director of the borough in which they have chosen to compete.

The various borough eliminations of both contests take place on the same designated nights as follows:

<u>Borough</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Manhattan	Washington Square Park	Fri. Aug. 26	8:30 PM
Bronx	Poe Park	Fri. Aug. 26	8:30 PM
Brooklyn	Prospect Park(Music Grove)	Thurs. " 25	8:30 PM
Richmond	McDonald Playground	Fri. Aug 26	8:30 PM
Queens	Forest Park (Music Grove)	Thurs. " 25	8:30 PM

The Barber Shop quartets and Hill Billy troupes which are placed first at each of the borough competitions will be eligible to compete in the finals on September 8th.

Awards will be made to the first, second and third place winners of both contests.

All quartets and troupes which are desirous of taking part in these contests are requested to communicate with the Park Directors in charge of their particular borough for further information regarding rules, costumes, musical instruments, etc.

The addresses of the Directors are as follows:

- MANHATTAN - Kenneth S. Franklin, Arsenal Building, Central Park, 64 Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City
- BROOKLYN - Richard C. Jenkins, Litchfield Mansion, 5th Street and Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, New York
- QUEENS - Philip J. Cruise, Overlook, Forest Park, Kow Gardens, Long Island, New York
- BRONX - George L. Quigley, Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, The Bronx
- RICHMOND - James J. Mallen, Clove Lakes Field House, Sunnyside, Staten Island, New York

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AUGUST 15, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Mr. Neasey

August 15, 1938

For Release IMMEDIATELY 790

The Department of Parks announces that there are 83 softball areas actively in use throughout the Park system. In Manhattan there are 32, in Brooklyn, 16, in Queens, 25, in The Bronx, 6, and in Richmond, 4.

In view of the fact that softball has attracted such widespread interest, which is clearly indicated by the 146,756 children and adults who have participated in softball games, and the 162 permits issued for the use of softball areas in Queens alone, the Department of Parks has made every effort to accommodate as many teams as possible by organizing leagues in each softball area and conducting round robin tournaments with playoffs between the leagues for the borough championship. The leagues are comprised of different age groups, running from the midget class up to the senior class.

In the Borough of Manhattan at J. Hood Wright Playground there is a league for boys from 10 to 16 years old consisting of 27 teams, and also a league consisting of 8 teams, comprised mostly of young men whose ages range from 17 to 25 years. The tournaments for both leagues are now in progress.

The Borough of Queens has been conducting intra-playground softball tournaments for 148 teams entered in the Park Department Playground Leagues, since May, for boys 16 to 19 years and boys over 19 years of age. The final Borough tournament will be held at Van Wyck Playground on August 21st, at 10:30 A.M., for Juniors, and for Seniors at 1:30 P.M. The Senior winners will represent Queens at Jones Beach State Park against the Suffolk-Nassau County winners.

In the borough of The Bronx, the Park Department has organized 3 softball leagues consisting of 32 teams, seven of which are in the midget division, 8 in the Junior division and 14 in the Senior division.

In the borough of Brooklyn a twilight league for adults has been organized consisting of 12 teams which play their tournament games at Canarsie Playground.

In Richmond softball leagues have been organized in the Di Matti Playground with a Senior league of 9 teams, in Lincoln Avenue Playground with a Junior league of 4 teams and a Senior league of 9 teams, and in McDonald Playground with a Junior league of 3 teams and a Senior league of 3 teams.

The softball areas are reserved, as far as practicable, during weekdays up to 5:00 P.M. for youngsters of elementary and high school age, and after 5:00 P.M., for adults who have no opportunity of playing during the day time. Twilight softball leagues have been organized by various industrial organizations, banking institutions and local neighborhood clubs, such as the Telephone Company, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, Edison Company, Chase National Bank, Bronx Elks, American Legion Post, etc.

The Mayor's Committee on Municipal Athletic activities was constantly importuned to form a softball league for municipal employees. Such a league, consisting of 16 departmental teams, was organized and the tournament is now in progress at various Park Department softball areas throughout the city.

In the latter part of August an inter-borough tournament will be held among the leagues organized by the Department of Parks for the purpose of determining the softball champions of the city parks. Subsequently, arrangements will be made to have games between the Park Department champions and the champions of Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

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AUGUST 15, 1938



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
 ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
 TEL. REGENT 4-1000

February

791
 For Release ~~IMMEDIATELY~~
Last copy

The Department of Parks announces the arrival Monday, August 15th, at the Central Park Zoo, of a jungle-bred male lion, four and a half years old. The animal a gift from Mr. Michael Lerner, was shipped from Nairobi, Kenya Colony, East Africa, on the steamship WEST ISLETA. It is in fine condition and photographs can be taken any morning prior to 10:45 A.M.

for the press

*Placed in City News Column
 Aug 17th ###J#*

AUGUST 16, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

92
For Release

Work was completed August 8th on a contract for paving with concrete, walks and roads in the Flushing Bay Boat Basin area at Northern Boulevard, Queens.

During the Fair, this area will serve as the marine entrance for people coming to the Fair by boat; after the Fair, the Boat Basin will be operated by the Department of Parks as a part of Flushing Meadow Park.

The contract was let by the New York State Department of Public Works, Division of Highways, and the work was done under the supervision of the Department of Parks. The work included the paving of a twenty-five foot wide promenade over the steel sheet pile bulkhead of the Basin, and the erection of a 3'6" steel railing; a twenty-four foot road and two parking fields, accommodating about one hundred cars each, to serve the Boat Basin; two twenty-four foot access roads from Northern Boulevard to the Boat Basin, and a portion of the thirty foot park service road from the Boat Basin to a point just south of Northern Boulevard, where it connects with the existing park service road. Six inches of topsoil was spread under this contract in the Boat Basin area to prepare the ground for grass seeding and planting.

The landscaping of this area is being done now, and will be completed this Fall.

####

AUGUST 18, 1938

Library

793

For Release ~~IMMEDIATELY~~

The Department of Parks announces that the First Annual Life Guard Tournament will be held on August 24, 1938, at the Central Mall, Jacob Riis Park, Queens.

It has for its objective the development and demonstration of improved methods of life saving at beaches and fostering of healthful competitive spirit among the life guards. There will be six 8-man teams representing Rockaway Beach East; Rockaway Beach West; Jacob Riis Park, Queens; Coney Island, Brooklyn; Orchard Beach, The Bronx, and South Beach, Staten Island; as well as two men from each of these beaches competing in the individual contest.

The beaches under the jurisdiction of this Department cover approximately 17 miles, and a staff of 391 life guards is employed. There will be placed in competition for the first time the trophy emblematic of the Municipal Life Guard Team Championship, to be known hereafter as the "Mayor's Trophy". This trophy will be in competition annually until it has been won three times by the same team, when it will remain in possession of the beach having the successful team.

An individual trophy known as the "Department's Trophy" will be awarded the life guard securing the highest number of points in the individual championship events. In addition, gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded individuals placing first, second and third in each event.

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AUGUST 18, 1938

Library

794
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that its Third Annual Swimming and Diving Championship will be held at Astoria Swimming Pool, Queens, Friday at 2 P.M., August 26th.

Teams representing the twelve outdoor Park Department swimming pools and also the Bedford and Metropolitan indoor pool in Brooklyn, will compete in swimming and diving events for the Supervisor's Trophy. This trophy which will be presented by Mayor LaGuardia, is to remain in the winning pool's possession for one year, until won three times by any one pool, which will then retain permanent possession of the trophy. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be given to the winner of each event.

There will be six diving events and fourteen swimming events for children of junior, intermediate and senior groups.

The various teams have been practicing daily for this meet and this year competition will be keen to take the championship away from Astoria Pool which has won the championship for the past two years.

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AUGUST 23, 1938

Library

For Release

NEWSPAPER
Wed. Sept 7 &
EVENING PAPERS
Thurs., Sept. 8,
1938.

AMERICAN BALLAD AND HILL BILLY CONTESTS

795

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the annual American Ballad Contest, popularly known as the "Barber Shop Quartet" competition, and Hill Billy contest, will take place on the Mall, Central Park, Thursday, September 8th at 8:30 P.M.

The Barber Shop Quartet will render songs that were popular among the habitués of the old tonsorial parlors in the early part of the present century. Each quartet will be groomed and dressed in some particular attire befitting this era.

In the Hill Billy contest, the competing troupes will wear costumes, fashioned on styles peculiar to the inhabitants of Blue Ridge districts famous for their mountaineer festivals. The performance will consist of songs and dances given to the tune of mountain music supplied from instruments of their own choosing by each of the troupes.

All the entrants of both contests on September 8th were chosen as the result of eliminations, held in each of the boroughs.

Suitable prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners of both contests.

The following factors will be considered by the judges in their decision: Tone, Harmony, Interpretation, Costume, Musical and Dancing Technique.

The persons who have been invited to act as judges include: Mayor LaGuardia, former Governor Alfred E. Smith, Park Commissioner Robert Moses, Luther C. Steward, President of the Federal Employees Association, Mark Andrews, well-known conductor of male choruses, Cesare Sodero, orchestra leader, and Zeko Manners of the WMCA Broadcasting Station.

The Park Department Band will give a concert prior to the contests from 7:00 to 8:15 P.M. In addition it will render a few selections at various intervals during the performance.

Community singing will precede and follow the evening's program and Harry Barnhart has been invited to act as the leader.

The entire program will be broadcast by Station WNEW.

Thousands of spectators witnessed the borough eliminations and it is expected that the followers of the respective contestants from each borough will fill the Mall to capacity for the finals on September 8th.

E N D

SEPTEMBER 6, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Sept 6 1938 796

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The best season of the year for planting trees is the period from September 15th until the ground is frozen to a depth of more than one inch. With the rapid approach of this season, it is well to inform the public of the regulations governing planting of trees in the City streets by private property owners.

Although the Department of Parks is charged with the care and maintenance of all trees in street areas, it is not obliged to plant new trees, nor to replace trees which have died from one cause or another.

The Department receives hundreds of requests every year from individuals requesting the planting of a tree. With the limited funds available, it would be impossible to satisfy everyone; so it has been necessary to adopt a policy of planting new street trees systematically, and primarily along main thoroughfares bordering or leading to major park areas.

To those who wish to plant trees in front of their property at their own expense, the Department offers every form of cooperation within its power. First, a permit is required. The permit is issued by the office of the Park Department in the borough in which the tree is to be planted. There is no charge and the permit specifies the kind of tree, size of sidewalk opening, size of excavation, the amount of topsoil and fertilizer required. The Department will inspect the planting operation and will inform the property owner when the tree has been satisfactorily planted, so that he can be sure he is getting his money's worth.

In cases where a group of property owners get together to plant trees, the Department will prepare contract plans and specifications, assist in taking bids from reputable landscape contractors and inspect the contract operations on the entire job.

Although some of the regulations of the Department seem stringent to a property owner who has received an offer from a landscape man to plant a tree for \$2.00 or \$3.00, the result of following the regulations is a reasonable assurance that a tree once planted will thrive and become an asset to the property. Trees planted by irresponsible contractors at abnormally low prices are seldom healthy; they are planted with insufficient soil and plant food and, if they survive at all, will never grow enough

to be an asset to either the city or the property owner. Trees of improper kind, or sizes or improperly planted are removed whenever they are encountered. The property owner who has planted them without a permit is notified of his violation and is informed as to the proper steps to plant a tree which will be acceptable and which can be satisfactorily maintained.

Applications for planting of individual street trees may be obtained at the borough offices of the Department located at:

Manhattan:	Arsenal 64 Street & Fifth Avenue New York City
Brooklyn:	Litchfield Mansion Prospect Park Brooklyn, New York
Bronx:	Birchall Avenue and Bronx Park East Bronx, New York
Queens:	The Overlook Kew Gardens Forest Park, Queens
Richmond:	Field House, Clove Lakes Park Victory Boulevard & Clove Road West Brighton, Staten Island

Those who are interested in banding together with their neighbors so as to get the benefit of quantity work under contract should address their inquiry to:

Mr. A. V. Grande
Assistant Landscape Architect
Department of Parks
Arsenal
64 Street and Fifth Avenue
New York City

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September 6, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that its Revenue Producing Facilities, which include 381 tennis courts, 10 golf courses, 12 swimming pools, 2 beaches and a Municipal Stadium, have shown a constant gain in usage by the public and an increase in revenue to the City, with the exception of the swimming pools, the income from which is lower than anticipated due to the early rainy season and the cool weather since the middle of August. These facilities are operated on a self-sustaining basis, with charges so fixed that there is no net profit to the City, the receipts being barely enough to pay for their maintenance and operation.

P O O L S

In 1937, the first year of full operation, 2,371,983 patrons visited the pools, of which 678,040 where children admitted free during weekday mornings. 923,529 were children who paid 10¢ admission charge and 770,414 were adults who paid 20¢, giving a revenue to the City for paid admissions of \$246,435.70.

During the 1938 season with Betsy Head Pool in Brooklyn operating with a temporary bath house and limited accommodations, **2,367,839** people visited the pools. **727,807** of these were children admitted free. **789,059** were children who paid 10¢ and **720,424** were adults who paid 20¢ admission charge. At Betsy Head Pool, where charges were reduced to 5¢ for children and 10¢ for adults due to the temporary accommodations, **24,544** children were admitted for 5¢ and **86,005** were adults who paid 10¢, giving the City a revenue of \$ **232,918.40** for all pools, while the income from concessions and the sale of bathing suits and towels increase this figure to \$ **240,753.29**.

During the past season there was a "Learn-to-Swim-Campaign" conducted from June 11th to June 25th, at which time 10,200 children and 400 adults registered for swimming instruction. Throughout the rest of the season it was estimated that 10,000 additional children were taught to swim.

Staffs at the pools begin today to put them in readiness for playground activities which will be carried on until the swimming season next year. The play centers will be opened to the public from 2 P. M. to

10 P.M. on weekdays and from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, beginning Saturday morning September 17th at 10 A.M. Basketball, volley ball, paddle tennis, shuffleboard and handball courts will be marked out on the pool bottoms, and during inclement weather such games as ping pong, checkers, quoits and group games will be held indoors. Weekly dances will be a feature during the winter months. No charge is made to the public for the use of these play centers.

The cost of operation of these facilities from January 1st to date is \$ **228,546.94.**

F L O A T I N G S W I M M I N G P O O L

During the past summer three of the old floating baths formerly operated by the Borough President of Manhattan, were completely reconstructed into a single unit, providing two pools and dressing facilities for men and women. This was moored at 93rd Street and the Hudson River and was opened to the public on August 5th. It proved very popular as shown by the attendance, as during the short season **6,202** children were admitted during the free period, **5,461** children paid 10¢ and **11,236** adults paid 20¢, giving a revenue to the City from this facility of \$ **2,793.30**

B E A C H E S

On June 25th, 1937, Jacob Riis Park and Orchard Beach were opened to the public and during the season 2,082,000 people visited Orchard Beach and 1,725,000 people visited Jacob Riis Park. From bath house and other sources the revenue from Orchard Beach amounted to \$96,143.78 and from Jacob Riis Park to \$85,938.04. During the 1938 season these two beaches have shown an increase in attendance and revenue, despite the poor weather conditions. Attendance at Orchard Beach this year has been **2,268,300** and at Jacob Riis Park **2,152,700**. Revenue derived from Orchard Beach this year was \$ **116,926.14** and from Jacob Riis Park \$ **92,688.45**

G O L F C O U R S E S

The largest increase in percentage of use over previous years of any of the facilities was shown by the golf courses. Through September 3rd there was an increase of 87,375 rounds over a corresponding period in 1937, with an increase in revenue also, the income in 1937 to September 4th being \$185,805.00 and this year \$212,188.00. The following

figures show the comparison in play this year over a corresponding period of last year at each of the ten courses:

<u>Golf Course</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>
Dyker Beach Golf Course	52,289	64,365
Van Cortlandt Golf Course	29,108	37,910
Moshulu Golf Course	40,087	47,877
Split Rock Golf Course	26,851	28,971
Polham Day Golf Course	34,082	43,120
Clearview Golf Course	56,182	53,226
Kissona Golf Course	32,702	42,954
Forest Park Golf Course	35,867	49,277
Silver Lake Golf Course	27,971	37,923
LaTourette Golf Course	<u>23,044</u>	<u>29,753</u>
TOTAL	358,003	435,376

TENNIS COURTS

In 1937 up to September 3rd, there were 20,130 junior and senior permits issued, giving the City a revenue of \$50,637. In 1938 19,717 permits were issued giving the City a revenue of \$59,151. 270,086 registrations were made at the tennis courts last year as compared with 326,546 registrations for 1938.

TRIBOROUGH STADIUM

It has recently been decided to change the name of Randall's Island Stadium to the Triborough Stadium as it indicates to those who still do not know its location, that it may be reached by the Triborough Bridge.

The season at the stadium opened on April 2nd with a rugby game between a picked American team and Cambridge University. Up to date it has been used for 42 events of widely varying character, including 2 rugby games, 5 track meets, 3 double header baseball games, 16 performances of operetta, 10 performances of grand opera, 2 vaudeville presentations, 3 benefit performances featuring swing music and one large public meeting.

On two occasions the stadium was filled to capacity, the first being on May 29th when a swing concert was given for the benefit of Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians, and the second the meeting of the World Youth Congress on the night of August 16th.

The unusually rainy season made conditions generally unfavorable for outdoor presentations. Bad weather conditions, combined with labor troubles, caused the cancellation of the contract of Messrs. Scrubert & Gallo for the presentation of operettas, after a three weeks' run, necessitating the booking of whatever attractions were available to

complete the season.

The total attendance up to the present time for all events is 172,642, of whom 71,001 took advantage of the convenient bus transportation, while 24,311 automobiles used the parking fields. At no time during the season have there been any delays to the public in getting to and leaving the stadium.

The income to date is approximately \$17,000.00, while the expenditures have been \$32,000.00.

The 1938 football season at the stadium will be inaugurated on September 24th with a game between Manhattan College and St. Bonaventure. This will be followed on October 1st and 8th by two early season Fordham games, after which there will be four high school double headers. There will be several professional football games on Sundays between a team representing the New York Black Yankees and various opponents.

With the increase in the number of revenue producing facilities throughout the City and the greater interest of the public in them, the revenues of the City have increased from \$200,000.00 for the entire year of 1934 to \$753,467.95 from January 1st to date.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

798
For Release

IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces the following offer of the gift of an elephant to replace HILDA whose recent incurable spinal injuries caused by a fall into a twenty-five foot dry moat at the Prospect Park Zoo resulted in her tragic but merciful end:

"ABRAHAM AND STRAUS, INC.

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER 12, 1938

Commissioner Robert Moses
80 Centre Street
New York City

My dear Commissioner:

Because we know how much the children of Brooklyn miss HILDA, the Brooklyn Zoo elephant whose fall resulted in its destruction the other day, Abraham and Straus offers herewith to present the Zoo with a brand new lady elephant embodying as many of Hilda's charms and graces as possible. This may seem an odd proposal for a department store to make, but children are among our best customers, and when one of their favorite elephants meets a premature and untimely end, our sympathy is aroused and our aid enlisted.

We do not carry any elephants in our regular stock, although we have practically everything else, but we have in this emergency appointed a special elephant buyer who has lined up a young female Indian specimen, in excellent condition and with a longing to live in Brooklyn. We stand ready to import this elephant to replace Hilda in the Prospect Park Zoo, and hope that in considering this offer you will think not only of Brooklyn's children, but will reflect on what its acceptance would do to cheer up Hilda's mate Bill, who feels terrible just now.

Cordially yours,

/s/ WALTER ROTHSCHILD"

Commissioner Moses replied as follows:

"Mr. Walter Rothschild
Abraham & Straus, Inc.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

September 12, 1938

Dear Mr. Rothschild:

Your elephant offer is accepted with thanks.

Sincerely,

/s/ ROBERT MOSES
COMMISSIONER

The new animal has already been purchased and is expected
to arrive on Friday, September 23rd.

- E N D -

September 13, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that the United States Maritime Commission, through Captain Granville Conway, District Representative, has been granted permission to tie up the three-masted, full-rigged ship TUSITALA at the George H. Cromwell Recreational Pier (Pier 6) in Richmond. The Hoffman Island base of the Maritime Commission is unsuitable for such dockage and the ship, which will be used for training purposes, will remain at this pier with a full crew aboard, including the master who has been in command of the vessel for the past five years.

It has been arranged with the Maritime Commission that, on week-ends and holidays, groups of Staten Island children and their parents will be conducted through the vessel, and it is expected that many will take advantage of this unique opportunity to become acquainted with the construction of the fast disappearing sailing ship.

- E N D -

Digby-4-9730
Capt. Conway-

CITY-WIDE FINALS OF SHUFFLEBOARD AND BADMINTON TOURNAMENTS

The Department of Parks announces that the city-wide finals of the Shuffleboard Tournament, consisting of singles only, will take place at North Meadow, 96th Street and Central Park, September 17th at 2 P.M.

The winner and runner-up from each of the borough contests which were held during the past three weeks for boys and girls over 18 years of age will be eligible to compete in the finals. Gold and silver medals will be awarded to the winner and runner-up and bronze medals to the remaining borough finalists.

The city-wide finals of the Badminton Tournament will be held at Mullaly Playground, Jerome Avenue and East 165th Street, September 17th at 2 P.M.

Separate Badminton Tournaments for boys and girls over 16 years of age have been conducted in the boroughs of Bronx and Queens. The winner and runner-up of the borough contests, in both boys' and girls' divisions, will qualify for the finals. There will also be mixed doubles matches with the winner of both boys' and girls' divisions constituting each doubles team.

Gold and silver medals will be awarded to the winner and runner-up in both the singles and mixed doubles matches.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

J. W. Headlip, Jr.

801

For Release IMMEDIATELY

MODEL BOAT REGATTA TO BE CONDUCTED IN
PROSPECT PARK ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER
24TH, AT 2:30 P.M.

The large lake in Prospect Park on the afternoon of September 24th will be the scene of the Newport Yacht Races in miniature. Many adult owners of model yachts will compete in this classic. The competition is open to all navigators of model sail boats who are over twenty-one years of age. Prizes will be awarded by the Department of Parks and there is no entry fee. All entries must report at the Model Boat House in Prospect Park by 1:30 P.M. on Saturday, September 24th.

1st race: - Open to any navigator with a model sail boat of any size.

2nd race: - 50.80

3rd race: - Open to models 40 to 50 inches in length

4th race: - Open to models 25 to 40 inches in length

5th race: - Open to models 10 to 25 inches in length

Each entrant must own his own boat and sail it himself.

In the event that it becomes necessary, there will be elimination races to determine the winner.

- E N D -

September 21, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

802
For Release IMMEDIATELY

Although many of the people of Staten Island strenuously oppose the construction of the State school on the Island, it will result in one major improvement which might otherwise have been delayed for some time.

The first forward step in the establishment of a parkway system on the Island was made possible by the decision of the State Department of Mental Hygiene to locate the school adjacent to Willowbrook Park. The site chosen was originally opposed by the Park Department because it gave no consideration to the park and parkway system which has been projected since 1928. Other sites were studied by the Park Department but when they were submitted to the State they were turned down.

The Committee appointed by Mayor LaGuardia to consider the site for the school met with Governor Lehman's representatives and finally agreed on a plan which permitted the Mayor's Committee to recommend it. It provides for the acquisition of the school site by the State and for some adjacent land by the City. The State will deed approximately 38 acres of land required for an addition to Willowbrook Park and as a part of the future parkway system, to the City. In return, the City will deed approximately 19 acres of land to the State. The State has agreed that the buildings will all be low and properly set back from the parks, parkways and streets. They have also agreed that the utility buildings will not be placed along the parkway, and that the grounds will be properly landscaped so as to afford full protection to the future park and parkway system.

As a result of this acquisition and exchange of lands, the City will have established a right-of-way for a Cross Island Parkway on Staten Island between Manor Road at the easterly end of LaFourrette Park and Victory Boulevard at the north end of Willowbrook Park, and it will have rounded out Willowbrook Park so that it can be made a more useful area. Eventually, this parkway will start in Marine Park, proceed in a northerly direction to LaFourrette Park, circle the State school past Willowbrook Park and then proceed in a northerly direction to connect with the right-of-way originally acquired as an approach to the Narrows tunnel in the vicinity of Baron De Hirsch Comotery. At this point it will branch in two directions, the northerly extension proceeding to Bayonne Bridge and the westerly connection to the Goethals Bridge. The right-of-way of the Narrows tunnel approach was acquired in a northeasterly direction as far as Clove Road. All of this right-of-way can be utilized as a connection between the Goethals Bridge, Bayonne Bridge and Clove Road.

The other parkway planned for the Island will run in a north-south direction starting at the north end of the Island in the vicinity of Tompkins Avenue and Hylan Boulevard, proceeding generally in a southerly direction along the ridge of hills along the East Side of La Tourette Park; thence southerly, paralleling Ramona Boulevard to the ~~outer bridge~~ *Outerbridge*. A spur can be constructed to connect this parkway with Wolfe's Pond Park.

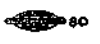
The possibility of constructing Shore Boulevard from Marine Park northerly to Fort Wadsworth and around the shore in front of Fort Wadsworth, to connect with Edgewater Street in the vicinity of Hylan Boulevard is also being studied.

The Park Department feels that now is the time to plan this system and acquire the property and that the land should be acquired within the next few years; at any rate at least before the Narrows Vehicular Tunnel is constructed. A request has been submitted in the Capital Outlay Budget for 1939 for \$60,000 to make the surveys needed to determine the lines of these proposed parkways. With this design and acquisition completed, the Borough of Richmond will be far ahead of the position in which other growing boroughs found themselves, and the City will not be forced to pay exorbitant prices in order to properly carry out the program for these arterial connections.

- E N D -

SEPTEMBER 22, 1938

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that because of the incessant popular demand bicycling will be permitted on the Rockaway Beach and Coney Island boardwalks during the off season.

These two recreational facilities, consisting of five miles at Rockaway and 2-3/4 miles at Coney Island, will add 7-3/4 miles to the 58-mile program of proposed bicycle paths announced during the past summer.

The two-planked bikeways with room for two or more cyclists traveling side by side in opposite directions will be marked off in lanes and patrolled by uniformed park attendants on bicycles. Because of their location, the ocean breezes, and the wide expanse of water with the Atlantic Highlands in the distance, they will offer not only an ideal opportunity for exhilarating, outdoor physical exercise with safety, but also mental relaxation.

School children traveling to and from school, particularly in Coney Island and Brighton Beach, will no longer have motorized competition, the possibility of serious injury, and carbon monoxide fumes to contend with.

Starting Monday, September 26th, and until May 1, 1939, bicycling will be permitted on weekdays until 1:00 P.M. and on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays until 11:00 A.M.

If there is sufficient demand on the part of the cycling enthusiasts for the rental of bicycles the Department of Parks will establish concessions for that purpose.

E N D

September 23, 1938

FLASH! WHAT IS A ZOO TO CHILDREN WITHOUT BALLOONS!

The Department of Parks announces that "Kelly's Comet" will make its appearance in the Central Park Zoo on Sunday, September 25th.

The "Comet" a streamlined balloon wagon constructed of chromium plated steel with pneumatic rubber tires looks like a rocket plane ready to take off into space. It is gaily painted with the City of New York colors of orange, blue and white, and its side panels depict the heavens with clouds, stars, the moon and the comet flying through the stratosphere.

Mounted at an angle of 45 degrees is the space ship with two orange colored rockets on either side.

This balloon wagon will mark a revival in Central Park of the sale of gas balloons which were discontinued in 1922 because of a City ordinance prohibiting the use of inflammable gas.

Concealed in the space ship will be a tank of helium, the non-inflammable gas now used in U.S. Army and Navy dirigibles with which the balloons will be filled and sold at a cost of ten cents each by a uniformed attendant dressed in colors to match the comet. The balloons will consist of every color in the rainbow, and each has painted on it some animal now housed in the Zoo.

E N D

September 23, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

MAGIC CONTEST

For Release _____

The Department of Parks announces that the finals of the Magic Contest for boys and girls of Park Department playgrounds will take place at the Mall, Central Park, Sunday, October 2nd at 2:30 P. M.

Any boy or girl under 18 years of age was eligible to enter the contest. Each of the boroughs has conducted eliminations to select those who will qualify for the finals.

The Department of Parks has instituted special classes in magic at designated playgrounds in the five boroughs during the past year under the supervision of playground directors interested in magic.

According to the rules of the contest, each entrant's performance shall not exceed 8 minutes. All sorts of novel tricks and stunts will be included such as: Shadowgraphy, Juggling, Ventriloquism, Paper Tearing, Chalk Talk, Rag Pictures, Punch and Judy, etc.

The performers will be rated on the basis of the following factors:

General Performance will count for 60% and will include: suitability of tricks, continuity of performance, originality of equipment, novelty of the trick and general effect.

Showmanship will count for 40% and will comprise the following characteristics: approach, patter, skill and personality.

The following persons of prominence in the field of magic have consented to act as judges: Paul Duke, W. R. Williston and Theodore Hardeen, a brother of the late Houdini, the erstwhile master illusionist.

E N D

SEPTEMBER 28, 1938



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
 ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
 TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library

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For Release IMMEDIATELY

AMATEUR PHOTO CONTEST

The Department of Parks announces that all the photographs submitted for the Amateur Photo Contest will be on display in the Education Hall of the American Museum of Natural History, 79th Street and Central Park West, beginning October 20th and running through October 27th from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. On Sunday, October 23rd, the hours will be from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

The display of contestant's pictures will be in conjunction with the playground children's Handcraft Exhibition conducted annually under the auspices of the Park Department.

The photographs will be judged on October 20th at 4 P.M. by the following persons who have consented to act as judges: Paul J. Woolf, John Gass, Samuel Gottscho and Francis Cormier.

Prizes have been donated for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place winners of the contest by the Park Association of New York City, R. H. Macy & Company, Davega City Radio, Inc. and Willoughby's. Twelve certificates of award and honorable mention will also be given to other contestants who have submitted the best pictures.

END

OCTOBER 3, 1938

CHILDREN'S HARVEST IN PARK GARDENS

The Department of Parks announces that on Columbus Day, October 12th, at 1:30 P.M. harvesting of the crops in Children's Gardens, maintained by the Park Department, will begin in the following gardens:

Crotona Park Garden	<u>Bronx</u> St. Paul's Place & Fulton Avenue
---------------------	--

Betsy Head Park Garden	<u>Brooklyn</u> Hopkinson & Blake Avenues
Fort Greene Park "	Myrtle & N. Portland Avenues

Highland Park Garden	<u>Queens</u> Jamaica & Cleveland Avenues
----------------------	--

Medals will be awarded to the boys and girls producing the best vegetables in each garden.

Hundreds of youngsters, ranging from eight to fourteen years of age, will harvest their second crop of the season, consisting of beets, carrots, swiss chard, leek, lettuce, radishes, kohi rabi, celery and fennel.

All the vegetables were planted during July and are now ready to be harvested by the little farmers who planted and cared for them during the growing season.

 E N D

OCTOBER 8, 1938

Following is the stenographic record of Park Commissioner Moses' comments made before the closed meeting of the Board of Estimate this afternoon on the subject of garbage disposal.

"I was quite impressed with my friend Bill's statement that all of the public opinion on this subject has been created by me. I would just like to warn this Board they had better not proceed on that theory.

"About half of the time of my fellow Commissioner was taken up with personalities. I am not going to discuss with him whether my procedure was ethical or not, or whether there's been ruthless spending in the Park Department for unnecessary projects, nor do I see any occasion to discuss my experience and his in public works. The question of relative accomplishments will not be settled in this Board. We'll just call that a day.

"The Commissioner referred to the article in the Bronx Home News and in that article I pointed to certain differences between the two types of filling operations that would have to take place. One type would be used in the middle of Jamaica Bay, and a totally different kind of operation at Soundview. I think since then President Ingersoll has brought out those differences. There is a vast difference, of course, between going out into the middle of Jamaica Bay on islands which are under water at high tide, typical of Long Island meadow land, filling them up with garbage and refuse and ashes, on the one hand, and building a bulkhead and bringing up to the general level of surrounding territory a piece of land on the edge of the Bronx River on the other. They are two totally different operations. I want to add two things to what President Ingersoll said:

"First, that in the picture that's been given of the relative cost of these operations, there's been a complete failure on the part of the Sanitation Department to give an accurate estimate, supported by figures, as to just what could be done to protect this fill.

"Now, I heard about the use of sand with clay in it, (clay doesn't happen to be there, but we'll pass that over) as against the expense of bulkheading, but I'd like to know what it would cost. There haven't been any figures on that and I am sure that it would be very expensive. You can't fairly add in that cost at Soundview and leave it out at Jamaica Bay.

"The other thing that perhaps is a little bit difficult to explain, charge it up to idealism or anything you please, but I have done a little work under similar conditions in exactly similar bodies of water, a little bit further east on Long Island. There's no essential difference between Jamaica Bay and other bays all the way down the Island to the Hamptons. We

*Bellevue
Page 2*

have something at Jones Beach that's been pretty much admired around the world. People from abroad have come over here to see it and they seem to think well of it, but perhaps they and the millions of local people are all wrong. One of the things that has made Jones Beach what it is is the fact that we have left the meadowlands precisely as nature made them. That's what we want to do in Jamaica Bay. We like them the way they are. Commissioner Carey is quite right in saying that we have no plans to do anything with those islands because we want to leave them alone. After all, there are still a few things left in metropolitan community that might be left as they were before the white man came and these meadowlands are one of the things that we ought to preserve just as they are.

"There's a great difference in the view from the Rockaways and, say, from the new Circumferential Parkway system, looking toward the Rockaways across the bay with the meadowlands as they are, on the one hand, and looking across the mountains of refuse, fill or anything else you want to call it, on the other. This new parkway development that we have as part of this whole Jamaica Bay program on which we are already launched, is a reality, not a dream. Anyone who doesn't understand that, doesn't understand our type of planning the park work and I despair of making them understand it, but the distinction is there just the same.

"As to Orchard Beach: My reference in the Bronx Home News to Orchard Beach was based on conditions that preceded the advent of Commissioner Carey. The mistakes that were made there were not, as he says, of our making; they were made by a predecessor. The worst thing that happened was the occasion when the booms broke, which, he said, were perfectly guarded and taken care of. Tin cans, refuse and garbage were scattered all over the Westchester shores and brought down on our neck not only the officials of Westchester but the State Commissioner of Health. There is no question about what happened on that occasion; it's in all the newspapers; and is acknowledged. It resulted in a conference in the Mayor's office with Commissioner Hammond, which I won't refer to any further. Carey ought to get his history straight.

"Now, as to Riker's Island, why is the Commissioner getting out of Riker's Island? Why do we want to clear Riker's Island for the Fair? Obviously, because it is a nuisance and if it isn't a nuisance and these conditions are all as admirable as he says they are, why change them? We went all over that. It was discussed in your Board in printed reports and everyone agreed that the mountain should be removed.

"The same thing applies, of course, to the Flushing Meadow. I am not going to argue with the Commissioner as to whether or not that heap in Flushing Meadow that was there for so many years and rose to ninety feet at some points proved to be a blessing in disguise when we came to the World's Fair. The fact of the matter is that the World's Fair would have been held there anyhow for a lot of other reasons, but it certainly wasn't an asset, except from the point of view of having a certain amount of fill which we could move cheaply. The fact of the matter was that up to that time it was a tremendous neighborhood detriment, and was so recognized by everybody. Ask the people of Corona whether they liked it.

"As to these land fills north of Jamaica Bay or anywhere else, President Ingersoll, I think, has pretty well brought out the difference between a land fill and a water fill. The fact of the matter is that Commissioner Carey ought to have given a picture to this Board and should still give it, of the difference between summer and winter operations. There is a great difference between a fill that is largely ash, on the one hand, and a fill that is largely garbage and refuse on the other, and on most of these land fills, and certainly those in the park system, we have insisted upon a quality of material that would not be a neighborhood detriment and it did consist largely of heavy matter.

"As far as the land fills are concerned at Jamaica in the area north of Jamaica Bay, the fact of the matter is that with the approval of the Circumferential Parkway and the availability of City and State money, a good deal of that work will not only have to stop, but it will have to stop immediately. We haven't any time for this particular kind of filling on this project. We have nineteen months to do a job that would normally be done in thirty-six months. We must build an immense stretch of parkway, with every kind of bulkheading, every kind of filling, all kinds of bridges. We haven't any time to do this by any other than the most modern engineering methods. The Commissioner doesn't need to worry about my asking him for any help on the Circumferential because I don't need any and I won't want any.

This Fresh Kills plan in Staten Island, of course, is entirely new to me and to the engineers who have been working with me. I knew that as an alternative the Commissioner had something in Staten Island in mind. I hear today it is to be at Fresh Kills and I see on the map that it is the area that is surrounded by New Springville Park, Willowbrook Park and LaTourette Park. I have never shared all the enthusiasm that some members of this Board have for planning, but I thought that before any such drastic scheme was proposed by a city official, involving a completely new use of a lot of land in one of our boroughs, land bordering on the park system (and this map even includes

part of one of the parks), I would have thought that the Planning Commission would have discussed that, and that it would have been discussed with all the other public officials involved, including the Borough President, the Park Department and all others.

"Now, there is a great difference between going into a limited area for two years to round out and complete a park in the Bronx and going to Staten Island and dumping without any notice to anybody concerned on an area arbitrarily picked out by the Sanitation Department. I would like to know something about that from the point of view of the park system. That's not unreasonable; that isn't reaching out for any other jurisdiction that doesn't belong to me; that's common sense.

"A question is raised as to land acquisition, drainage and bulkheading. How are you going to carry out your operations? We are told, on the one hand, that this Soundview operation will cost a certain amount of money. That's based on facts which we have checked. We are told that as an alternative, there's a Staten Island scheme and the facts aren't there. You don't know what it will cost. You haven't any idea what you will have to do there before such an operation would even be tolerable and I suggest that you get the facts before you do much about it.

"Now, this whole question really comes down to one of major policy. Does this Board want to give up incineration? Does it want to give up without an effort, educating the people to separate the different kinds of material? That's up to you. I suggest, also, that you apply some common sense to this problem because the average fellow knows that the smoke, smell, flies, rats, mountains of undesirable material go with most filling operations by water and barge and you are not going to make the average fellow, just on somebody's statement, I don't care how eloquent, earnest, or authoritative he is, believe that these objections don't exist. Cost isn't the only test either, nor engineering and contracting theories; you have got to deal with public opinion.

"I am going to reserve the right as a public official to continue in every way that I can to oppose ruining Jamaica Bay by this dumping operation. As far as Staten Island is concerned, I am going to oppose anything that I think is going to be harmful to the park system. As far as Soundview is concerned, and since the Commissioner says that he is going to be in complete charge and that I can't guarantee anything, I withdraw the suggestion that you go to Soundview. I don't want him there under the circumstances. All that I ask of him is that he keep away from the park system.

The President of the Council:

Commissioner, you used Riker's Island as a yardstick for what we might expect wherever else the Commissioner goes. I would like to point out that Riker's Island was not built up with the cut and cover system; Was it?

Commissioner Moses:

Partly, Yes. Recently it has been filled in just that way.

The President of the Council:

I mean you disapprove of the cut and cover system. Dont you?

Commissioner Moses:

No, I don't disapprove of the cut and cover system. I approve of it under certain conditions and with certain kinds of materials and not under other conditions.

The President of the Council:

You don't want any burnable material in the fill at all?

Commissioner Moses:

No, I don't say that either. I want a small percentage of it, I thought I made that clear; not too large a percentage of it and I want it in places where it can be filled up and covered and where it doesn't constitute a mountain of refuse. This Bronx operation simply brings low property up to the grade of surrounding property. It is entirely different from the Staten Island proposal or the proposal in Jamaica Bay. You can't laugh these things off; we have seen them all. Tell someone who saw that dump out in Corona for 30 or 40 years that this long term dumping is all right, that it's fine, and listen to his answer. There was no effort made to build the Flushing Meadow area to some new grade if there had been, we would have had it all ready for the World's Fair without additional expense. You build a mountain of refuse, of garbage and ashes there with rats and smoke and fire and everything that goes with those things.

Commissioner Moses (continued)

I made the suggestion about Soundview Park just to be helpful. I told the Commissioner at the time I made it that I would help him with the question of approval or disapproval of local people and I discussed that matter with the Borough President of the Bronx also. I thought that on a two year operation, properly controlled and with complete cooperation on all hands and no controversy and dispute, that we could do something there that would give him two years to work out a better and new policy for the rest of the City. He doesn't want that. He says he is going to be the only authority as to what constitutes clean fill. All right, let him go somewhere else. We don't need the addition to Soundview Park. I'd like to have it. I think it would be a pity not to have it. I have no objection to his land fill, or at least the present land fill; none at all; no criticism of it, but I can get along without it. You members of the Board decide what to do with this garbage.

The President of the Borough of the Bronx:

Commissioner Moses, I had maps all laid out for Soundview Park. Do you want me to take them back?

Commissioner Moses:

Yes, I withdraw any request before the Board for Soundview Park and request that the matter be dropped.

The President of the Borough of the Bronx:

Then you refer back those maps that we have all laid out. (Addressing the Secretary.)

Commissioner Moses:

Mr. President, if you will excuse me, I have to go to a meeting in the Mayor's office.

The President of the Council:

Will you be in the building if we want your advice?

Commissioner Moses:

Yes, I will be in the building.

END

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
BOROUGH OF QUEENS

21 - 10 --49th Avenue
Long Island City
N. Y.

Oct 12, 1938 808A
Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

According to this morning's papers, the Comptroller has advised the Mayor that the Boroughs of Queens and Brooklyn have to give up the Circumferential Parkway plan. I can't understand this quick change on the part of these city-wide officials. The city has acquired the land needed for the improvement and has thrown the people out of the houses so that the work can go ahead and everything is all set for construction to start.

Only a month ago the Mayor was talking to President Roosevelt about a scheme for financing both this parkway and the Battery-Hamilton Tunnel, which would have run to about one hundred million dollars. When he couldn't get that, he compromised and agreed with the Federal Government to go ahead with the construction of the parkway. Only three weeks ago he instructed the Deputy Mayor to sign an application for the \$12,000,000 grant on this project. The application was also signed by the Comptroller and the then Acting Mayor, Newbold Morris. What happened overnight to make them decide on this sudden change in attitude towards this project? Didn't they know as much about the finances of the city three weeks ago as they do today? If they could afford to spend one hundred million a month ago for a tunnel, they can afford to do this parkway job now and still build schools and hospitals. The main difficulty with the financial situation in the city is the five-cent fare, and if they would stop playing politics with that, the city would be in a position to take care of these improvements. As a matter of fact, from the report of the Board of Transportation, they claim that it costs nearly eleven cents to carry a five-cent passenger on the City Subway.

This Circumferential job will cost the City of New York \$16,000,000 and President Ingersoll and I agreed that we would take 20% of this cost, 10%

on the Borough of Brooklyn and 10% on the Borough of Queens. The other 80% would be made a city-wide assessment, which is the way it ought to be done. It would be collected in five years. It isn't a long-term bond proposition where the city's credit is tied up for fifty years.

What use can we make of the Planning Commission if their advice isn't listened to in a thing like this? This was one of the first jobs they approved when they came into office and only a day or two ago they recommended to the Board of Estimate that the city go ahead with the job.

The city has invested millions in the land for this project and unless it goes ahead with the improvement, the investment will be lost to the city for years. On the other hand, if the highway, service roads, landscaping, and all the rest of the work is done, it will not only offset the price of the land but will increase the revenue to the city by increasing taxable values. Take a look at any of the parkways that have been built and see what has happened adjacent to them. Look at Grand Central Parkway, built in 1933, and compare the value of the property adjacent to this improvement today with what it was when the job was first laid out. Just yesterday I saw a report made by the Park Department on the increase in values adjacent to the Henry Hudson Parkway. Already the city's income has increased over a million dollars a year because of this project, and that job isn't even finished. There has been even a greater return to the city on the Grand Central Parkway and when this Circumferential job is done through the undeveloped sections of Brooklyn and Queens, it will bring an even greater return to the city by opening up this land, which you can't even reach today.

I don't intend to lay down on this job and let them take this construction money away from the Borough of Queens. It is an improvement that has been on the top of the list for a long time and now, when this twelve million dollar gift from the Federal Government is available to put men to work in this borough, to give the people of Queens a real improvement which is needed now and will be needed more as time goes on, the Comptroller and the Mayor talk about taking it away from this job and spending it someplace else. They are not going to get away with it.

(Signed) GEORGE U. HARVEY
President of the Borough
of Queens.

October 12, 1938.

"TO RECORD THE FACT THAT
WILLIAM WHITE NILES
WAS THE FOUNDER OF THE
BRONX RIVER PARKWAY
THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN
ERECTED BY HIS FRIENDS"

Music will be provided by the P.S. #71 band.

Members of the State Council of Parks who are convening for their 124th meeting to be held on Saturday, October 15th, at 1:30 P.M. at Mohansic Park on the Bronx River Parkway Extension, will attend both ceremonies.

- E N D -

OCTOBER 13, 1938

809

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release FRIDAY
OCTOBER 14, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that on Saturday, October 15th, ceremonies will be held at Mt. Morris Park, Fifth Avenue and 120th Street at 9:30 A.M., in connection with the completion of the reconstruction of the park.

Besides Park Commissioner Robert Moses who will preside, the others taking part in the exercises will be Col. Brehon B. Somervell, W.P.A. Administrator of the City of New York, Hon. Stanley M. Isaacs, President of the Borough of Manhattan, Hon. Ferdinand Q. Morton of the Municipal Civil Service Commission and Hon. Fiorello H. LaGuardia, Mayor of the City of New York.

Music for the occasion will be provided by the Park Department band.

On the same day at 10:30 A.M., the Park Department will dedicate the Niles Memorial Flagpole on the Bronx River Parkway at 226 Street, erected by friends to honor William White Niles, civic worker and former member of the Bronx River Parkway Commission.

At these exercises William H. Bolton will preside and introduce Hon. Robert Moses, Commissioner of New York City Parks and Chairman of the State Council of Parks; Jay Downer, former Chief Engineer of the Bronx River Parkway Commission; Francis R. Masters, Chairman of the Taconic State Park Commission and Roderick Stephens, President of the Bronx Board of Trade.

Upon conclusion of the speaking, Mrs. William White Niles will unveil the plaque which reads as follows:

Oct, 15, 1938

Niles Memorial

Flag Pole
+ plaque
loc. Bronx River

Parkway
226th St

ded. to W. I. White
Niles

plaque

"TO RECORD THE
FACT"

The Department of Parks announces that the final rounds of the New York Municipal Golf Championship will be played on Sunday, October 16th, 1938, at Forest Park Golf Course. Entries for the tournament will start from the first tee at 7:30 A.M. and will continue through the day. The course will be closed to the public, but galleries will be permitted to watch the tournament.

Those qualified to play on Sunday are players who lasted up to the quarter finals in match play competition on their home courses.

Prizes will be awarded to the winner and runner-up of the 36 holes of medal play and a team prize will be given to the four low gross scorers from any one of the ten courses operated by the Park Department.

After the four men have teed off, the women who have qualified will play to decide the winner of the Women's Division. This competition will consist of 18 holes of medal play and a cup will be awarded to the winner.

Below are the names of the qualifiers and their starting times for the first round.

- E N D -

OCTOBER 14, 1948

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

811
For Release IMMEDIATELY

Bids were received on October 10th by the Department of Parks at the Arsenal Building, Fifth Avenue and 64th Street in Central Park on a contract for alterations to the Natatorium Building at the Rice Memorial, in Pelham Bay Park, Borough of The Bronx.

The work to be done consists of the construction of new ventilators over the shower rooms and on the roof, setting copper flashing and repairs to the roof where required.

The three lowest bidders were:

Pipe Engineering Co., Inc.	\$ 9,179.00
Golco Builders	9,722.00
Chester Construction Co., Inc.	10,284.00

The Engineer's estimate for the work was \$9,655, and these alterations will require ninety (90) calendar days for completion.

- E N D -

OCTOBER 14, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

But 117,1938
812
For Release ~~IMMEDIATELY~~

The Department of Parks announces that it will conduct a city wide "Whistling Contest" at Mullaly Playground, Sunday, November 13th at 2:30 P.M.

This contest, a new feature of the Park Department's recreational program, is open to all types of whistlers, finger and lip. The classification of songs or tunes permitted in the contest are as follows:

1. Whistling soloists (classical, semi classical and popular songs).
2. Whistling novelties.
3. Bird imitators.

The competitors will be placed into two age groups - under 18 years and over 18 years, with separate divisions for boys and girls.

The Borough eliminations will be held as follows:

Manhattan	October 29	Roosevelt Playground	2:30 P.M.
Richmond	" 27	Cromwell Center	8:30 "
Brooklyn	November 1	Picnic House, Prospect Park	8:00 "
Bronx	November 2	Mullaly Playground	8:00 "
Queens	" 6	Jackson Heights Playgd.	2:30 "

All those desiring to enter the "Whistling Contest" are requested to communicate with the playground director in charge of the playground nearest his home. Each contestant must participate in the borough eliminations in order to be considered eligible to enter the finals at Mullaly Playground, November 13th.

The winner of each classification in the borough eliminations, from both age groups of the boys' and girls' divisions, will qualify for the city wide competition.

Gold and silver medals will be awarded to the winner and runner up in each of the three classifications and bronze medals to the remaining borough finalists.

The following persons, prominent in the radio and whistling world, have consented to act as judges: Lew Olson, professional whistler, Nick Kenny, Radio Editor of the Daily Mirror and Henry Boyd, the official bird whistler of the Columbia Broadcasting System.

AMATEUR PHOTO CONTEST AND HANDCRAFT EXHIBIT

The Department of Parks announces that the 344 photographs submitted for the Amateur Photo Contest will be on display in the Education Hall of the American Museum of Natural History, 79th Street and Central Park West, beginning October 20th and running through October 27th from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. On Sunday, October 23rd, the hours will be from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

The display of contestants' pictures will be in conjunction with the playground children's Handcraft Exhibition conducted annually under the auspices of the Park Department.

The dual exposition will take place in the midst of a floral show consisting of plants that are on view at Park Department greenhouses and nurseries during the winter months and also some early chrysanthemums which will be a forerunner of the Chrysanthemum Show scheduled for the last week of October.

The Handcraft Exhibit will include objects made by children of all age groups in the various Handcraft Classes supervised by the Department of Parks at the numerous playgrounds under its jurisdiction as an integral part of a comprehensive all year-round recreation program.

The heterogeneous collection will reveal skilful leather, soap and chip carving, raffia, reed, bead, weaving and basketry work. Useful and decorative articles for home and school have also been made from such materials as cork, wood, metal, leather, wool, crepe paper and felt. Discarded materials of various sorts have been salvaged from the waste heap by the young craftsmen and converted into instruments of practical value, viz. baskets made of clothes-pins, lamps made of bottles, and flower sets made from tin cans.

Other contributions to the handcraft display consist of wearing apparel such as sweaters, scarfs and hats with singular designs and beautiful color schemes; and sets of kindergarten plates rimmed with Nursery Rhymes constructed of cardboard and highly furnished with shellac.

Demonstrations in the technique of handcraft will be given during the exhibition by children from each of the boroughs in the following: leather and chip carving, reed-work, bead-work, metal work and hook rug construction.

The best five articles in each division of handcraft will be determined and certificates of award presented to the youthful artificers who produced the handiwork.

Scenes depicted by the photographs in the contest might be classified into two groups with variations or combinations of both in each group: (1) scenes of natural grandeur, landscaped areas and animal life as found in New York City Parks; (2) scenes of youth and age actively engaged in recreational activities at Park Department playgrounds, swimming pools and other recreation areas.

The photographs will be judged on October 20th at 4 P.M. by the following persons who have consented to act as judges: Paul J. Woolf, John Cass, Samuel Gottscho and Francis Cormier.

Prizes have been donated for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place winners of the contest by the Park Association of New York City, R. H. Macy and Co., Davega City Radio, Inc. and Willoughby's. Twelve certificates of award and honorable mention will also be given to other contestants who have submitted the best pictures.

- E N D -

OCTOBER 17, 1938

The final 36 holes of medal play in the New York City Municipal Golf Championship held Sunday, October 16th at the Forest Park Golf Course was won by Peter DeCaprio of the Split Rock Golf Course. The winner had a 79 in the morning round and in the afternoon he shot a 76, for a total of 155 for both rounds.

Thomas Strafaci of Dyker Beach and Peter Ladislav of Clearview were in a tie for runner-up position with scores of 156 for both rounds, shooting scores respectively of 78-78 and 74-83. In a play off of nine holes, Ladislav was the winner with a score of 37 for nine holes.

Mrs. C. Roettger of Pelham Golf Course was the winner in the women's division with a score of 98. Sixteen women participated in the tournament.

Sixty-four entries played in the men's division, representing the ten golf courses operated by the Department of Parks.

The team prize awarded each year was won by The Clearview Golf Course team represented by P. Ladislav, 156; R. McDonald, 159; A. Tucker, 164; and G. Rosenberg, 167, for a team score of 646.

- E N D -

OCTOBER 18, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

80
THURSDAY EVEN-
ING OCT. 20 &
For Release FRIDAY MORNING
OCT. 21 PAPERS

The New York City Parkway and Triborough Bridge Authorities announce that on the morning of October 20th, stainless steel plaques presented by Mr. F. H. Frankland, representing the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc., were placed on the Little Hell Gate Lower Level Bridge built by the Triborough Bridge Authority to span Little Hell Gate between Randall's and Ward's Islands in the East River and also the Marine Parkway Bridge spanning Jamaica Inlet and linking the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens.

These plaques are being installed as permanent records of the awards made in 1937 in a contest sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction. The Institute makes annual awards for the most beautiful bridges and does so in order to demonstrate that steel bridges can be not only efficient and economical, but also aesthetically pleasing. Designation of the prize-winning bridges is by a committee composed of leading Consulting Engineers and Architects.

The Marine Parkway Bridge spanning Rockaway Inlet is one of the great Metropolitan water crossings linking the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. Formerly the crossing of vehicles were by ferrys or by circuitous routes to Queens and over the Cross Bay Boulevard. It joins Marine Park, ultimately to be the largest park in Brooklyn when its great acreage of meadow land is developed, with Jacob Riis Park the largest public recreation area on the Rockaway peninsula. The Marine Parkway Bridge and Marine Parkway are linked to the 36-mile long Circumferential Boulevard system which will encircle all the rest of the shore of Brooklyn extending from Owl's Head Park, at the Narrows, around the entire outer border of Brooklyn and Queens to the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge now under construction. The Brooklyn Circumferential Parkway recently approved by the Board of Estimate, when completed, will make the Marine Parkway a link of one of the greatest and important express arteries in the world, connecting with the Westchester Parkway system north of New York City, through the Henry Hudson Parkway, the West Side Highway, and the proposed Battery tunnel, providing a new express route for the people of Manhattan and Brooklyn to reach Marine Park, Jacob Riis Park and the Rockaway peninsula, or to continue easterly to Long Beach and eastern Long Island by way of the Long Island State Parkway system.

The Bridge replacing the former ferry is slightly more than 4000 feet long with three 540 foot spans in the center bridging the channel, flanked by five shorter spans on either side. The two spans flanking the central span have a clearance of 50 feet above mean high water.

The central section, the longest vertical highway lift span in the world, is 55 feet above the high water line in its normal position, and raises an additional 95 feet, making a total clearance of 150 feet to permit the passage of large vessels.

The Marine Parkway Bridge was built at a total cost of \$3,750,000; 12,000 tons of steel and 47,000 cubic yards of concrete were used in its construction. Contracts for construction were signed on June 30, 1936; work started shortly afterward, and the bridge was completed and opened to traffic on July 3, 1937. O. H. Ammann was Chief Engineer; Edward W. Stearns, Assistant Chief Engineer; Allston Dana, Engineer of Design; Aymar Embury II, Architect; Col. H. W. Hudson, Engineer of Construction; American Bridge Company, Fabricators, and Corbetta Construction Co., Inc., did the substructure.

Award of the first prize in Class B to the Little Hell Gate Low Level Bridge is especially noteworthy because it is the second structure built as part of the Triborough Bridge project to be so honored, the suspension bridge over the East River having received first prize for Class A bridges completed in 1936.

Located midway between the Triborough Bridge and the New York Connecting Railroad Bridge, the new structure gives access to Ward's Island from the mainland via the Triborough Bridge and Randall's Island. Although the Triborough Bridge crosses both Randall's and Ward's Islands, it makes no connection with the latter but passes over it at a relatively high level. However, vehicular ramps and pedestrian stairways are provided at the bridge junction structure on Randall's Island. The Little Hell Gate Low Level Bridge is so called because it spans Little Hell Gate with a roadway only about 40 feet above high water at its highest point.

The Manhattan State Hospital of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene is on Ward's Island and construction of the Low Level Bridge made possible the discontinuance of ferry service from Manhattan, formerly the only means of access. At a future date the Island is to be developed into a public park to supplement the facilities now being developed by the Park Department on Randall's Island.

The bridge consists of three hingoless steel arch spans of 167 feet, 280 feet and 242 feet respectively, with abutments on the banks of the two Islands and with two intermediate piers in the waterway. All abutments and piers rest on solid rock and are of concrete faced with masonry. The steel arch ribs are spaced 26 feet apart and carry a roadway 24 feet wide flanked by two 7 foot sidewalks. Including the approach ramps, the total length of structure is 1,130 feet.

The Little Hell Gate Low Level Bridge was built at a cost of approximately \$530,000. Construction was started in September, 1936, two months after the Triborough Bridge was put in operation. It was completed and opened to traffic on May 15, 1937. Engineers: Madigan-Hyland, Consulting and Supervising Engineers; Waddell & Hardesty, Consulting Engineers on lift and flanking spans; Robinson & Steinman, Consulting Engineers on design of dock spans; Aymar Embury II, Consulting Architect. The American Bridge Company did the fabricating and erecting and Frederick Searo Co. built the substructure.

It is interesting to note that while the Northern Boulevard Bridge over the intra-mural Drive through Flushing Meadow Park will not be commemorated with a plaque it did receive honorable mention in Class B. It was built by the State Department of Public Works on the design of the City Department of Parks at a total cost of \$448,376; the engineers were Madigan-Hyland; it was completed on September 10, 1937 and opened to traffic on June 8 of the same year. It has seven spans of 49.5 feet.

- E N D -

OCTOBER 19, 1938

The Department of Parks announced today that starting 9 a.m., October 24th, the southbound roadway of the Henry Hudson Parkway from George Washington Bridge to 79th Street, will be closed for approximately one week. Depending upon weather conditions, construction will be completed so that this roadway can be reopened on October 31st.

The construction of this section of the parkway was particularly difficult because of the deep mud along the edge of the river and required a vast amount of rock and other heavy fill material to secure a stable foundation for the outer section of the parkway. While the roadway is closed the sections of pavement which have settled at 93rd, 100th and 146th Streets will be taken out and reconstructed at final grade so as to eliminate the present depressions which are annoying to traffic.

During this period of construction southbound traffic will be required to leave the parkway just south of George Washington Bridge and may not enter it again until it reaches 79th Street. Riverside Drive will be the most convenient route between these two points.

- E N D -

OCTOBER 21, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
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Library Oct 21, 1938
IMMEDIATE
For Release 817

The Department of Parks announces that the 344 photographs submitted for the Amateur Photo Contest conducted by the Park Department were reviewed by the board of judges, Thursday, October 20th at 4 P.M. at the Education Hall of the American Museum of Natural History, 79th Street and Central Park West.

The following were adjudged the winners:

1st Place - Martha Berger - 234 East 70th Street, New York City

2nd Place - Robert Price - 1685 Bryant Avenue, Bronx

3rd Place - M. Moskowitz - 749 East 175th Street, Bronx

4th Place - W. E. Johns - 20 Laurel Hill Terrace, New York City

Honorable mention was given to the following contestants:

Salvatore Asaro - 342 East 49th Street, New York City

Dewey Carver - 1100 Grand Concourse, Bronx

Jack Ladenheim - 1660 Crotona Park East, Bronx

Andrew Costikyan - 520 West 122nd Street, New York City

Herbert Hamburger - 322 East 8th Street, New York City

Manny Blanc - 227 East 3rd Street, New York City

Ardent Gravesen - 157 West 84th Street, New York City

Mr. M. Moskowitz of 749 East 175th Street, Bronx, besides being awarded 3rd prize, received honorable mention for three of his photographs.

Miss Martha Berger, the first prize winner, is 17 years of age and a student at Hunter College.

The prizes consist of the following:

1st Prize - a camera - Kodak Anastigmat Special f. 4,5 lens with a Compur Rapid shutter and case. Donated by H. R. Macy & Co.

2nd Prize - a camera - Kodak 616 Senior f 6.3 lens. Donated by Davega City Radio, Inc.

3rd Prize - a camera - Argus Speed Camera Model C. Donated by Willoughby's, Inc.

4th Prize - certificate entitling holder to \$25.00 in photographic supplies. Donated by the Park Association of New York City, Inc.

Certificates of merit will be awarded to the contestants receiving honorable mention.

Presentation of prizes to the winning competitors of the Amateur Photo Contest will take place Wednesday, October 26th at 4 P.M. at the Education Hall, of the American Museum of Natural History.

The judges of the contest were: Samuel Gottscho, Paul J. Wolf,

John Gass and Francis Cormier.

All the pictures submitted for the Amateur Photo Contest will remain on display at the Education Hall of the Museum until Thursday, October 27th.

October 21, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
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818A

Mr. Scastip

For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that arrangements have been made for the formation of playground children's bands and orchestras starting Monday, October 24th.

Any boy or girl, up to 18 years of age, who plays a musical instrument, is eligible to compete for membership in the juvenile band or orchestra.

Mr. Attilio Castellucci, leader of the Park Department Band and an instructor of music for the past 30 years, will supervise the organization of these musical units at official rehearsal centers located in a designated playground of each borough as follows:

<u>Borough</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Playground</u>
Bronx	Saturdays - 2 - 4 P.M.	St. James Playground - E. 193 St.
	Sundays - 2 - 4 P.M.	and Jerome Avenue
Brooklyn	Wednesdays - 4 - 6 P.M.	McLaughlin Playground - Jay, Bridge and Tillary Sts.
Queens	Fridays - 4 - 6 P.M.	Von Dolan Playground - 138 Street & Archer Ave., Jamaica
Richmond	Thursdays - 7:30 - 9 P.M.	McDonald Playground - Forest Avenue, near Broadway

October 21, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that the city wide finals of the Roller Skating Contest conducted annually by the Park Department for both children and adults will take place at the Circle Lawn roller skating rink, 106th Street and Central Park West, Manhattan, Saturday, October 29th at 2:30 P.M.

The following are the events of the program:

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
Under 9 years of age	40 yard dash	
4'8" and under	60 yard dash	40 yard dash
5'3" and under	100 yard dash	60 yard dash
Over 5'3"	220 yard dash	100 yard dash
Unlimited	220 yard dash	100 yard dash

The first, second and third place winners of each event in the borough eliminations held recently will be eligible to compete in the finals on October 29th.

Gold and silver medals will be awarded to the winners and runners-up of the finals respectively and bronze medals to each of the borough finalists.

October 21, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
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819
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Park Department, on Wednesday, October 26th at 11:00 A.M., will hold its Fifth Annual Review of its Civil Service personnel, on the Sheep Meadow, which lies between 66th and 69th Streets east of the West Drive in Central Park.

The Queens Borough forces, which won the award for appearance and record during the year 1937, will be in the front rank. Competition for this honor is much keener this season than in former years inasmuch as the winning borough will receive a large plaque as an award of merit.

The inspection will be a routine affair, giving the Mayor and the park executives an opportunity to look over the combined forces.

As a skeleton force must be left in the parks, particularly to operate comfort stations, playgrounds, revenue producing facilities and borough offices, approximately 3,000 of the regular Civil Service maintenance and operation force will be present. Included in the ranks will be foremen, laborers, mechanics, gardeners, climbers and pruners and men and women playground directors.

Mayor LaGuardia will not only present the plaque but also individual awards to that member of the supervisory force who has made the best record for efficiency in each of the five boroughs.

In connection with the review and as part of the ceremony, John S. Morgan, a park employee who intends to retire at the end of the year, will review the personnel to honor his 36 years of faithful service in the Department of Parks.

E N D

OCTOBER 25, 1938

Individual Award to Employee in
Each Borough Showing Best Results
for the Past Year.

1.	Beatrice N. Elger	Richmond	98%
2.	Mark Fitzgerald	St. James Park Bronx	87%
3.	Thomas A. O'Hare	Harlem Housing Playground Manhattan	84%
4.	Richard A. Sharp	Triborough Bridge Playground Queens	83%
5.	Christopher A. Stokes	Bill Brown Memorial Playground Brooklyn	76%

J. W. Neaslip, Jr.

The Department of Parks announces that chrysanthemums at the Conservatory Garden in Central Park, Fifth Avenue and 105 Street, are now at their best. There are about five thousand (5000) chrysanthemums in bloom which are exceptionally good this year on account of the fine fall weather.

The varieties in bloom are:

Ruth Cummings	Yellow Normandie
Barbara Cummings	October Girl
Early Bronze	Lillian Doty
Frances Whettlesoy	Joan Cummings
Apollo	Captain Cook
Corcanum	Articum
Nipponicum	October Dawn

They are all hardy types and similar types can be grown in any garden or yard where the soil is good.

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OCTOBER 26, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
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820
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces the opening of their annual chrysanthemum show on November 5th at 10 A.M. at the Prospect Park Greenhouses in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, near Prospect Park West and Ninth Street.

A very attractive display of over 4000 individual plants will be on exhibition with over 5000 blooms of various colors. Various types of chrysanthemums are used, such as the large Japanese varieties, also Pompons, Anemone, Miniature, Cascade and hardy types so arranged to set off the coloring to the best advantage.

The exhibition will be open free to the public every day from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. for three weeks.

- E N D -

NOVEMBER 4, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
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821
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces the final tournament for caddies at Mosholu Golf Course on Tuesday, November 8th at 2 P.M.

This will be an eighteen hole match play, with Vincent McBride, Mortimer Janko, Vincent Pilerio and William Crosborough, winners of four former elimination tournaments being the finalists. The contestants will compete for the Andrew Clancy Memorial Cup, donated by Frank Clancy, the golf professional at the Mosholu Golf Course. This cup must be won twice by any caddy to become his permanent trophy. A gold medal will also be presented to the winner of this final tournament.

- E N D -

NOVEMBER 5, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
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For Release ~~NOVEMBER 7, 1938~~

J.W. Huseip Jr

The Department of Parks announces that bids were taken today for the erection of one of the famous Vanderbilt gates at the entrance to the Conservatory Gardens at 104th Street and Fifth Avenue in Central Park. The gate is a gift from Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney and has been accepted on behalf of New York City by Park Commissioner Moses.

The ornamental portal was one of a pair designed by George B. Post in 1894 for the mansion of Cornelius Vanderbilt at Fifth Avenue and 58th Street. The gates were fabricated in Paris of wrought iron with scroll work and ornamentation of cast bronze. The refinement of the design and the care used in the choice of materials and workmanship gave distinction to the Vanderbilt chateau on Fifth Avenue and typified the glories of the mauve decade. The gates were preserved and placed in storage when the mansion was demolished in 1928.

Mrs. Whitney's generous offer to restore and erect the gates on city property has been the subject of study by the Park Department for the past three years. The ideal site was finally discovered at the entrance to the new Conservatory Gardens at 104th Street. The gate will open up and suitably enframe the fine view into the gardens and restore to Fifth Avenue a familiar landmark. Proximity to the Museum of the City of New York diagonally across the Avenue, lends an added propriety to the choice of location.

With the northern advance of business along Fifth Avenue it was inevitable that the stately mansions would pass out of the picture, generally with only photographs as visual evidence to support the stories which relate the colorful parts they have played in the creation of the city. Through the Vanderbilt gates have passed the most famous persons of the early twentieth century. Through a happy combination of generous owner and appreciative administrator these gates are to return to Fifth Avenue to remain for posterity as a record and reminder of the art of the mauve era.

The work of re-erecting the gate and a portion of the old Vanderbilt wrought iron fence is scheduled to begin early in November and should be completed by January 15, 1939.

J. W. Hearsh, Jr.

The Department of Parks announces that bids were taken today on the first three contracts to be let for the construction of the Circumferential Parkway, the new thirty-five mile artery which will run from Owl's Head, Brooklyn to the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge Plaza, Queens.

All bids taken today were in the Shore Parkway section of the Project which runs from Owl's Head Park to Aqueduct, Queens. It is interesting to note that these contracts have been prepared, approved by several city agencies and by the Public Works Administration, have been advertised and bids received in a lapsed time of three weeks since since the final approval of the P.W.A. grant.

The first proposal was for the construction of the substructure of the Plumb Beach Channel Bridge and the placing of hydraulic fill through Marine Park, Brooklyn, extending from the terminus of Emmons Avenue to Flatbush Avenue at the northwest corner of Floyd Bennett Airport. Five bids were received and the three low bidders were:

ARUNDEL CORPORATION.....	\$822,362.50
NATIONAL EXCAVATION CORPORATION.....	911,445.00
FREDERICK SNARE CORPORATION.....	932,518.70

The second proposal taken was for the placing of fill, grading and construction of a rip rap bulkhead from Fort Hamilton to Bay Parkway along the shore of Gravesend Bay, Brooklyn. Four bids were received and the three low bidders were:

STANDARD DREDGING CORPORATION.....	\$724,314.00
GAHAGAN CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION.....	740,410.00
J. M. HAZELL CO.....	959,440.00

The third bid taken today was for the placing of fill from Flatbush Avenue to the Aqueduct intersection of the Shore Parkway with Southern Parkway. This section will carry the Circumferential Parkway through the marshes of the north shore of Jamaica Bay. Four bids were received on this proposal and the three low bidders were:

GAHAGAN CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION.....\$ 958,500.00
AMERICAN DREDGING CORPORATION..... 1,019,505.00
ATLANTIC GULF AND PACIFIC COMPANY..... 1,050,350.00

Work on all these contracts will start within two weeks.

The Circumferential Parkway will be built at a total cost of approximately \$28,000,000., \$12,000,000. of which is being financed through a P.W.A. grant and the remaining \$16,000,000. by the city.

The three contracts on which bids were received today are the first of over two hundred which must be let for completion by July 1st, 1940. The future contracts will comprise filling, grading, drainage, paving, lighting, landscaping and the construction of over sixty grade elimination bridges and pedestrian overpasses in connection with the thirty-five miles of new parkway along which, following the precedent already established on the Henry Hudson Parkway, the East River Drive, and the Triborough Bridge Approaches, there will be intensive neighborhood recreational development.

Work on all of these contracts will be started within the next two weeks.

- E N D -

NOVEMBER 7, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that it took bids today on the fourth contract on the Circumferential Parkway Project.

Four firms submitted bids for filling for the Cross Island Parkway section between Northern Boulevard and Fort Totten, along the shore of Little Neck Bay.

The three low bidders were:

CONSTRUCTION AGGREGATE CORPORATION.....	\$737,415.
NATIONAL EXCAVATION CORPORATION.....	888,250.
GAHAGAN CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION.....	986,600.

This is the fourth bid taken this week on this thirty-five mile parkway project, which is being financed by the City with the aid of a \$12,000,000. P.W.A. grant. Three were submitted on Monday for filling in the Gravesend Bay, Marine Park and Jamaica Bay sectors of the Shore Parkway section. All this work will be commenced by the contractors within two weeks.

- E N D -

NOVEMBER 9, 1938

The Department of Parks announces that the city wide finals of the "Whistling Contest" will take place at Mullaly Recreation Building, Jerome Avenue and 165th Street, Bronx, Sunday, November 13th at 2:30 P.M.

This is the first time that the Park Department has included a contest for whistlers in its varied and comprehensive recreation program. The competitors are restricted to the use of fingers or lips in the rendition of their selections.

The classification of songs or tunes permitted in the contest and the age group for each classification, with separate divisions for boys and girls, are as follows:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Age Group</u>
1. Whistling soloists (classical, semi-classical and popular songs)	Under 18 years and over 18 years
2. Whistling novelties	Under 18 years and over 18 years
3. Bird Call Imitators	Under 16 years and over 16 years

There will be a separate division for boys and girls under 8 years of age and for men and women over 30 years of age, all of whom are eligible to enter any of the classifications.

The winner of each classification in the borough eliminations, which have been held during the past three weeks, will qualify for the finals at Mullaly on November 13th.

2

It was disclosed at one of the borough contests that a number of youngsters ranging from 5 to 14 years of age have neither seen a canary nor heard one sing. This contest will give the underprivileged youth of our city an opportunity to keep abreast of their rural contemporaries by educating them in the melodious tunes of rare birds.

Each of the borough competitions has elicited wide response. The contestants came out in large numbers and strove keenly for the right to represent their borough at the finals. Enthusiastic audiences greeted them in every borough and it is expected that the followers of the numerous entrants will fill Mullaly Recreation Building to capacity next Sunday afternoon.

Gold and silver medals will be awarded to the winner and runner-up in each of the three classifications and bronze medals to the remaining borough finalists. The National Association of Audubon Societies dedicated to the protection of wild birds and animals in America will donate three special prizes to the winners of the division for "Bird Call Imitators".

The following persons, prominent in the radio and whistling world, have consented to act as judges: Lew Olsen, professional whistler and originator of the Whistling Contest, Nick Kenny, Radio Editor of the Daily Mirror, Henry Boyd, official bird whistler for the Columbia Broadcasting System, Fred Lowry, whistling specialist of Vincent Lopez's band, and Roger Tory Peterson of the Audubon Society.

As an added feature on the program for the finals on November

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
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For Release IMMEDIATELY

3

13th the expert whistlers among the judges have agreed to demonstrate their talent by whistling a few songs or tunes typifying each of the classifications.

November 10, 1938

826

The Department of Parks announces the final
tournament for caddies at Mosholu Golf Course on Tuesday,
November 8th at 2 P.M.

This will be an eighteen hole match play,
with Vincent McBride, Mortimer Janke, Vincent Pilerio and
William Crosborough, winners of four former elimination
tournaments being the finalists. The contestants will com-
pete for the Andrew Clancy Memorial Cup, donated by Frank
Clancy, the golf professional at the Mosholu Golf Course.
This cup must be won twice by any caddy to become his perman-
ent trophy. A gold medal will also be presented to the win-
ner of this final tournament.

- E N D -

Also released Nov 3, 5



**LONG ISLAND STATE PARK COMMISSION
BELMONT LAKE STATE PARK
BABYLON, L. I., N. Y.**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL C. R. BLAKELOCK AT BABYLON 1000 OR BABYLON 1178

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1938:

Work will be completed next month on the pavement, approaches and bridges of the new 10 mile Northern-Wantagh State Parkway Extension project in Nassau County which was originally scheduled to be opened to traffic early next spring. Mild fall weather has been a contributing factor in the completion of this \$4,400,000 parkway project nearly three months ahead of schedule.

Arrangements are being made for a formal dedication to be held on Saturday, December 17th, at which time it is expected that Governor Herbert H. Lehman; Commissioner of Highways, Arthur Brandt; Nassau County Executive, J. Russel Sprague; and Commissioner Robert Moses will be the principal speakers.

The project, which embodies all the known features of modern parkway design tending toward safe and efficient operation of motor vehicles under attractive conditions, begins at the present easterly terminus of the Northern State Parkway at Glen Cove Road, extends through the Village of Westbury to Union Avenue and then turns south to connect with the completed Wantagh State Parkway to Jones Beach State Park at its junction with the Southern State Parkway.

The new Northern-Wantagh State Parkway Extension project provides a direct parkway route, 43 miles in length, free of all grade crossings and stoplights, from Manhattan and the Bronx via the Triborough Bridge, and from Brooklyn via Interborough Parkway, to eastern

Long Island and Jones Beach State Park on the Atlantic Ocean.

The construction of the new parkway has been progressed
by the State Department of Public Works in cooperation with the
Long Island State Park Commission.

E N D.

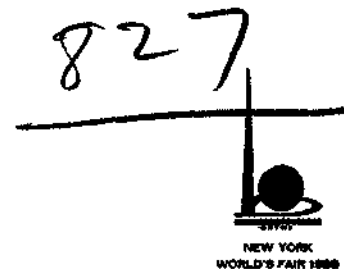


ROBERT MOSES
COMMISSIONER

Library

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ARSENAL
64TH STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE
CENTRAL PARK
NEW YORK CITY



ALLYN R. JENNINGS
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
WILLIAM H. LATHAM
PARK ENGINEER
GEORGE E. SPARGO
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
JAMES A. DAWSON
SENIOR PARK DIRECTOR
JAMES A. SHERRY
CHIEF CLERK

November 21, 1938

NOTICE TO EDITORS

NO RELEASE UNTIL WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 23

There will be a meeting tonight (Tuesday, November 22) at 8:30 P.M. in the Lecture Room of the Roosevelt Wing of the American Museum of Natural History, 80th Street and Central Park West. The purpose of the meeting is the presentation of the plan of Park Commissioner Moses for Housing and Recreation to carry out the intent of Constitutional Amendment Number Four recently adopted by the people. The meeting is sponsored by the following groups:

The Citizens' Housing Council
The Park Association of New York
The New York Building Congress
The Metropolitan Association of
Real Estate Boards
The Associated Architects of New York City

Commissioner Moses will speak along the lines indicated in the attached report and those listed on the attached program will discuss his plan.

Seats in the front of the Lecture Room will be reserved for the press.

Allyn R. Jennings

General Superintendent

Attachs.

MEETING ON HOUSING AND RECREATION

THE LECTURE ROOM
ROOSEVELT WING
THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CENTRAL PARK WEST AT 80TH STREET

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1938
AT 8:30 P.M.

P R O G R A M

RADIO WNYC - 8:30-10 P.M.

8:30	P.M.	Mr. Harold S. Bottenheim, President Citizens' Housing Council of New York - Chairman
8:33	P.M.	Honorable Robert Moses, Commissioner Department of Parks
9:16	P.M.	Honorable Alfred E. Smith, Honorary President State Constitutional Convention
9:20	P.M.	Honorable Paul Windols, Delegate State Constitutional Convention
9:24	P.M.	Gustavus Town Kirby, Esq., Vice President Park Association of New York City, Inc.
9:28	P.M.	Honorable Louis H. Pink, Chairman New York State Board of Housing
9:32	P.M.	Honorable Raymond V. Ingersoll, President Borough of Brooklyn
9:36	P.M.	Mr. Clarke G. Dailey, Chairman Metropolitan Association of Real Estate Boards
9:40	P.M.	Honorable Stanley M. Isaacs, President Borough of Manhattan
9:44	P.M.	Mr. Thomas S. Holden, President New York Building Congress, Inc.
9:48	P.M.	Mrs. Samuel I. Rosenman, Chairman Housing Committee of the United Neighborhood Houses
9:52	P.M.	Honorable Joseph C. Baldwin, Councilman Borough of Manhattan
9:56-10	P.M.	Honorable Rexford G. Tugwell, Chairman City Planning Commission

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

For Release

828

TEL. REGENT 4-1990 The Department of Parks announces that the ten municipal golf courses will close at the end of the day, Wednesday, November 30th. To keep them open beyond this date with the alternate freezing and thawing, would be injurious to the courses and cause bare spots to show up on the greens which could not be rehabilitated by the opening of the courses next Spring. The small demand at this time is another factor which determines the closing date of the golf courses, as they, as well as other revenue producing facilities, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks, are run on a self-sustaining basis which requires the income to be sufficient to pay the cost of maintenance and operation. During this season, through November 25th, there have been 602,895 rounds of golf played over the various courses, which is an increase of 102,895 rounds over last year. The following is the number of rounds recorded at each of the ten courses through November 25th:

Van Cortlandt	55,849
Mosholu	67,534
Pelham	59,683
Split Rock	40,338
Clearview	63,211
Kissena	65,246
Forest Park	68,747
Dyker Beach	88,315
Silver Lake	51,074
LaTourette	42,898

With this tremendous play over the courses, it has been difficult to keep them in playing condition with the money allowed at present for their maintenance and operation. With the change in fees next year, it is thought that there will be more moneys available to buy additional supplies, material and equipment for the courses and to increase the number of men assigned to each course. This change will eliminate the \$3. season junior permit and the \$10. senior permit. There will be but one permit, a \$5. seasonal permit, good on any of the ten courses from Monday to Friday, inclusive. These permits are also good on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, with an additional fee of \$.50 per round. The daily fees will remain the same, \$.75 for week days and \$1. for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

* * * * *

NOVEMBER 26, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

For Release 879

The Park Department announced today that the Court of Appeals, in a decision of November 29, has upheld the policy of the Municipal Civil Service Commission in requiring the City's life guards to take practical and physical tests to determine their ability to perform their duties. The decision stated that their fitness could only be ascertained in this manner.

Under the new City Charter, the jurisdiction of Coney Island, Rockaway and South Beach, Staten Island, previously under the jurisdiction of the various Borough Presidents, was given to the Park Department. With this transfer, it was found that many of the life guards were on preferred Civil Service lists of the various Borough Presidents' offices, and as a great number of them had held the position for so many years that the Park Department questioned their present fitness, the Civil Service Commission was asked to hold physical and practical examinations, so as to safeguard the public using the beaches. This was agreed to and on May 9th the Commission ordered a qualifying examination. About two hundred men, all of whom had been guards for from six to fifteen years on the City beaches, refused to take the test, and went to the Supreme Court to compel the Civil Service Commission to certify the lifeguard preferred list. On May 27th, Justice Rosenman, in handing down a decision that the Commission did not have the right to require the tests, strongly urged that changes should be made in existing regulations, so as to require all life guards to pass periodic practical tests. The Corporation Counsel appealed the case for the City, resulting in the above-mentioned decision by the Court of Appeals.

The greater proportion of the former guards having refused to submit to tests, the Civil Service Commission ordered a new examination, and qualified over three hundred men who were immediately assigned to duty and whose record of lifesaving along the twelve miles of City beach under their supervision was the most outstanding in recent years.

This decision, in upholding the prudent requirements of the Civil Service Commission, represents signal success for the Corporation Counsel of the City, who has defended the Commission in this action from the start.

A copy of the decision is attached.

(ATTACH.)

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

*For Release*_____

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(ATTACH)

In the Matter of LEOPOLD V. ROSSI, Petitioner, Appellant and Respondent,
v. ROBERT MOSES, As Commissioner of Parks, Defendant, and PAUL J.
KERN et al., Members and Constituting the Municipal Civil Service
Commission of the City of New York, Defendants, Respondents and
Appellants.

(Decided November 29, 1938)

CROSS-APPEALS from an order of the Appellate Division, first depart-
ment, affirming an order of Special Term.

LEOPOLD V. ROSSI in person, for petitioner, appellant and respondent.

WILLIAM C. CHANLER, CORPORATION COUNSEL (SAMUEL J. SILVERMAN AND
PAXTON BLAIR of counsel), for defendants, respondents and appellants.

O'BRIEN, J. In the year 1927 petitioner passed an open competitive examination for the position of municipal lifeguard and was appointed to that position which embraces only "temporary employment for seasonal work". Each year, when the bathing season at the beaches had expired, petitioner was notified that his services were terminated and that his name would be placed upon the preferred list of suspended employees and made eligible for re-employment. Since the termination of his services for the 1937 season, his name has been upon the eligible list. He has received notice from the Municipal Civil Service Commission to submit to an examination for a medical and physical test and to report for a practical test to swim fifty yards in thirty-five seconds. Petitioner refused to submit to the new examination and the relief which he demands is that the examination be canceled and that the Municipal Civil Service Commission certify the names of persons on the preferred list for lifeguards in accordance with their standing on the list. The courts below have decided that petitioner is obliged to submit to a physical examination in accordance with section 14 of the Civil Service Law (Cons. Laws, ch. 7) but is not required to undergo the practical swimming test. He has once passed an open competitive examination for the position of lifeguard but that examination occurred ten years ago. A physical examination for the peculiar position to which petitioner seeks to be re-

stored must necessarily include not only an examination in respect to a generally sound condition of his body, but also such a physical condition as is directly related to the duties to be performed by him as a lifeguard. He might, in a general sense, be free from illness or disease, but after the passage of ten years time be unable, physically, to perform the duties of lifeguard. The physical test of his ability to act as lifeguard includes not only general physical health but also such a condition of bodily strength as would enable him to rescue drowning persons on the municipal beaches. We think, therefore, that the provisions of section 14 of the Civil Service Law, empowering the Civil Service Commission to "refuse to certify an eligible who is physically so disabled as to be rendered unfit for his performance of the duties of the position to which he seeks appointment," applies to a prospective appointee to the position of lifeguard. The physical qualification of petitioner to perform the duties of lifeguard can be determined not only by the physical test which the Civil Service Commission has proscribed. Physical ability to perform the duties of this position can be ascertained in no other way.

The orders should be modified by reversing so much of the order as directs defendants not to require petitioner to take and pass the practical test as a condition of certifying him for appointment to the position of lifeguard and as so modified affirmed, with costs to the appellant. The motion by the defendants, respondents and appellants, to dismiss the appeal taken by the petitioner should be denied.

CRANE, CH. J., HUBBS, LOUGHRAN, FINCH AND RIPPEY, JJ.,
concur; LEHMAN, J., taking no part.

Ordered accordingly.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

831
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces that bids were received today for the fifth contract to be let on the Circumferential Parkway, which is being financed by the City of New York with the aid of a Public Works Administration grant of \$12,000,000.

The work to be done under this contract includes the construction of two bridges over the Parkway, one at Farmers Boulevard, and the other at New York Boulevard, as well as the grading, drainage and paving of the parkway drives and the south service road.

This section of the Circumferential Parkway is a good example of coordination of work done under various agencies. The north service road now being used by traffic was built by the State Department of Public Works in 1937. The rough grading of the area included in today's contract was done by the WPA under the supervision of the Department of Parks during this last summer. The plans and specifications for this present contract were prepared for the Department of Parks by the State Department of Public Works and the construction work will be inspected by engineers from the same department.

Twelve contracting firms bid on this contract. The three low bidders were:

Poirer & McLane Corporation 33 West 42 Street, N.Y.	\$645,608.45
Garmino Pettracca Hollis, Long Island	654,418.10
Johnson Drake & Piper Freeport, Long Island	664,685.30

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DECEMBER 12, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

Library
Winter Sports

8832
For Release _____

IMMEDIATELY

The Department of Parks announces an extensive program of winter sports activities including carnivals, skiing, ice skating and coasting. In addition to the lakes used for ice skating in the larger parks, 106 wading pools will be flooded and 15 tennis courts will be sprayed. Five winter sport carnivals will be held on Jan. 8th, at Victory Field, Myrtle Avenue & Woodhaven Boulevard, Queens; Van Courtlandt Park Lake, near West 242nd St., Bronx; Conservatory Lake, Central Park near 72nd Street & Fifth Avenue, Manhattan; Prospect Park Lake near Empire Boulevard & Lincoln Road, Brooklyn; Clove Lakes near Victory Boulevard & Clove Road, Richmond. There will be featured at these carnivals, events for juveniles, juniors and seniors. Exhibition of figure, pair and novelty skating will form part of the program. As a fitting climax to the borough carnivals, a monster winter sports carnival will be held on January 15th at the Conservatory Lake, Central Park. All those who won in the respective borough carnivals will be permitted to enter the final championships.

In the event of snow, a contest in snow sculpture and snow architecture will be held on Saturday, January 21st at 2 P.M. Last year 3,000 competed in this novel contest and it is expected that there will be many more entries in 1939. Medals will be awarded to all winners of the winter sports carnivals and also to the winners of the contest in snow sculpture and snow architecture.

The attached list designates the respective areas for ice skating, skiing and coasting.

ATTACH

December 13, 1938

CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

ICE SKATING, COASTING AND SKIING AREAS 1938-1939

M A N H A T T A N

ICE SKATING

LAKES

Central Park

Conservatory Lake - 72nd Street
59th Street Lake
72nd Street Lake
110th Street Lake

WADING POOLS

Carl Schurz Playground - East 84th to 89th Sts. & East River
Carmanville Playground - Amsterdam Avenue & West 151st Street
Chelsea Park Playground - West 27th to West 28th St. & 9th Avenue
Colonial Playground - West 145th St. & Edgecombe Avenue
Columbus Park Playground - Baxter & Park Streets
Fort Tryon Playground - Riverside Drive to Broadway & Dyckman Street
Great Lawn Playground - Central Park
Gulick Playground - Sheriff & Delancey Streets
Hamilton Fish Playground - Pitt & Houston Sts.
Highbridge Playground - 167th Street
Jay Hood Wright Playground - 173rd St. & Ft. Washington Avenue
John Jay Playground - East 76th to 78th Sts. & East River
Kelly Memorial Playground - West 17th St, between 8th & 9th Aves.
Lewis & Rivington Playground
Lillian Wald Playground - Cherry & Monroe Streets
McCray Playground - West 138th St, between 5th & Lenox Avenues
Mt. Morris Playground - 120th to 124th Streets & Madison Avenue
Playground - 130th St. & 5th Avenue
Riverside Drive Playgrounds
 West 74th Street
 West 96th Street
Rumsey Playground - Central Park
St. Gabriel's Playground - East 35th to 36th Sts., 1st & 2nd Aves.
St. Nicholas - West 141st St. & St. Nicholas Avenue
Sara Delano Roosevelt, 2 & 5 - Chrystie & Forsythe Streets
Sauer Playground - East 12th St, between Ave. A & Ave. B
Thomas Jefferson Playground - East 111th to 114th Sts. & 1st Avenue
Tompkins Square Playground - 7th to 10th Sts., Ave. A to Ave. B
83 Roosevelt St. Playground
95 Thompson St. Playground
104th Street & East River Drive
119th St & East River Drive

MANHATTAN (Cont'd)

TENNIS COURTS

York Avenue & 63rd Street
93rd St. - Central Park

COASTING

Central Park

Burn's Lawn - 79th St. & West Drive
Cedar Hill - South of 79th St., Transverse Rd. & East Drive
East Meadow - 99th St. off 5th Avenue - Small children
Pilgrim Hill - 72nd St. off 5th Avenue
60th St. & West Drive
70th St. & West Drive
72nd St. - North of Boat House
83rd St. & East Drive

Inwood Park
Fort Tryon Park

BROOKLYN

ICE SKATING

LAKES

Prospect Park

WADING POOLS

Avenue L & East 17th Street Playground
Bay Parkway & Avenue P Playground
Bedford Avenue & Avenues X & Y Playground
Bushwick Park - Knickerbocker & Irving Avenues
Carroll Park - President & Court Streets
Crispus Attucks - Fulton Street & Classon Avenue
Drhill Road & 38th Street Playground
Dreier-Offerman - Bay 46th St. & Cropsey Avenue
Fort Greene Playground - Myrtle Avenue & St. Edwards St.
Ft. Hamilton & 52nd Street Playground
Heckscher Playground - Linden St. & Central Avenue
Howard, Pacific & Dean Playground
James J. Byrne Memorial - 3rd St. & 4th Avenue
Lafayette & Reid Playground
La Guardia Playground - South 5th St. & Havemeyer St.
Leiv Eiriksson - 66th & 67th Sts. & 4th Avenue
McCarren Park - Driggs Avenue & Lorimer Street
McKibbin Playground - White & McKibbin Streets
McLaughlin Park - Tillary & Jay Streets
Neptune & West 25th Street Playground
New Utrecht & 70th Street Playground
Ocean Parkway & Avenue P Playground
Owl's Head, Colonial Road & 67th Street
Pitkin & New Jersey Avenues Playground

B R O O K L Y N (Cont'd)

WADING POOLS (Cont'd)

Prospect & Greenwood Avenues
Rod Hook Pool Playground - Pioneer & Dwight Streets
S. A. Radd Playground - Aberdeen Street near Bushwick Avenue
Schermohorn & 3rd Streets
Sheridan Playground - Grand Street near Wythe Avenue
South 3rd & Berry Streets
Stillwell & Avenue U
Taffe Place & Park Avenue
Tompkins Park - Tompkins & Greene Avenues.
Union & Van Brunt Streets
Vandervoort & Cherry Streets

COASTING

Prospect Park

Endale Arch Hill - Lincoln Road & Ocean Avenue Entrance
Hill Southeast of 1st Street
Prospect Park West - 3rd St. & Prospect Park W. Entrance
Southwest of Maryland Memorial - 15th St. & Prospect Park W. Entrance
Southwest of Music Stand - Empire Boulevard Entrance
Sugar Bowl Hill - 9th St. & Prospect Park W. Entrance
Tennis House Hill - 9th St. & Prospect Park W. Entrance
Well House Drive - Vanderbilt Street Entrance of Prospect Park

SKIING

Prospect Park

Southwest of Music Stand - Empire Boulevard Entrance
Sugar Bowl Hill - 9th St. & Prospect Park W. Entrance
Tennis House Hill - 9th St. & Prospect Park W. Entrance

B R O N X

ICE SKATING

LAKES

Crotona - Crotona Park E. & East 173rd Street
Van Courtlandt - 242nd Street & Broadway

WADING POOLS

Couldwell Avenue Playground
Cedar & Sedgwick Avenues
Ciccaroni Playground - East 189th St. & Hughes Avenue
Crotona Park E. & Charlotte Street
Crotona Park E. & East 173rd Street
Devoe - W. 188th St. & University Avenue
Mullaly - E. 165th St. & Jerome Avenue
St. Mary's West - E. 147th St. & St. Ann's Avenue
Stebbins Avenue & 167th Street

B R O N X (Cont'd)

WADING POOLS (Cont'd)

Van Courtlandt South - 240th St. & Broadway
Williamsbridge - East 208th St. & Bainbridge Avenue
Zimmorman - Olinville Avenue & Britton Street
141st St. & Brook Avenue
166th St. & Morris Avenue
182nd St. & Belmont Avenue

TENNIS COURTS

St. James - E 191st St. & Jerome Avenue
Williamsbridge - E. 208th St. & Bainbridge Avenue
Woodlawn - E. 233rd St. & Jerome Avenue

COASTING

Bronx River Parkway & E. 226th Street
Claremont Park - Clay Avenue
Crotona Park - Marmion Avenue & Crotona Park North
18th Tee & Fairway of Van Courtlandt Golf Course

SKIING

18th Tee & Fairway of Van Courtlandt Golf Course

Q U E E N S

ICE SKATING

LAKES

Alley Pond - Winchester Blvd. & Horace Harding Blvd.
Baisley - 116th Avenue & 155th Street
Bowne - 29th Avenue & 156th Street
Brookville - 149th Avenue & 216th Street
Capt. Tilly Park - 165th St., Highland to 85th Avenues.
Crocheron - 35th Avenue & 214th Place
Jackson Pond - 108th St. & Myrtle Avenue
Kissena Park - Oak Avenue & Kissena Boulevard
Linden - 41st Avenue & 103rd Street
Poa Pond(Horace Harding) - Alley Pond Park
Oakland Lake(Alley Pond) - 212th St. & Northern Boulevard
Twin Ponds - Brookville Park

WADING POOLS

Benninger - Madison St. & Fresh Pond Road
Brookville - 149th Avenue, East of 216th Street
Corona 111 - 47th Avenue & 111th Street
Dry Harbor - 80th St. & Myrtle Avenue
Highland Lower - Jamaica Avenue & Elton St.

QUEENS (Cont'd)

WADING POOLS (Cont'd)

Jackson Heights - 84th St. & 30th Avenue
Jackson Pond - 108th St. & Myrtle Avenue
Jamaica 179 Place - Jamaica Avenue & 179 Place
Junction Blvd. - Junction Blvd., 34th Ave., 96th St.
Juniper Valley - Dry Harbor Road & 62nd Street
Liberty Park - Liberty Avenue & 172nd Street
Liberty 102nd Street
Martins Field - 46th Avenue & 164th Street
Newton - 56th Avenue & 92nd St.
O'Connell - 113th Avenue & 196th Street
Thompson Hill - 47th Avenue & 43rd Street
Tri 66B - Hoyt Avenue & 21st Street
Tri 66F - Hoyt Avenue & 29th Street
Van Wyck - 111th Avenue & 134th Street
Von Dohlen - 138th St. & Archer Avenue
Windmuller - 52nd St. & Woodside Avenue

TENNIS COURTS

Alley Pond - Grand Central Parkway, Northern Boulevard
Brookville - Brookville Boulevard, S. Conduit Highway
Crocheron - 215th Place, 33rd Avenue, Bayside
Cunningham - Union Turnpike, N. of 193rd Street
Highland - Jamaica Avenue, Cleveland Street
Liberty Park - Liberty Avenue & 172nd Street
Tri 66A - Hoyt Ave., 19 to 21st St.
Tudor Field - N. Conduit Avenue, 80th Street
Woodhaven - 89th Avenue & 90th St., Woodhaven

FLOODED & SPRAYED AREAS

Alley Pond Picnic Grove (natural area, wetted snow, rains)
Jackson Heights Softball Field
Jacob Riis Park - Riis Park, Rockaway, L. I.
Liberty Park Roller Skating Track
O'Connell Handball Courts - 113th Ave. & 196th St., St. Albans, L. I.
Victory Field - Woodhaven Boulevard & Myrtle Avenue

COLLECTING

Alley Pond Park (Grand Central Parkway to Northern Blvd., 233rd St.)
Hill at Parking Field
Hill from road to Athletic Field
Motor Parkway, Horace Harding Blvd. to Winchester Blvd., Hollis, L. I.
Chisholm Park
Hill from Mansion into baseball field, Toppenhausen Ave., East River.
College Point, L. I.
Crocheron Park
38th Ave., beginning at 215th St., Bayside, L. I.
Forest Park
Hill north of Tennis Courts, Park Lane South, opp. 89th St.
T 18, Golf Course

QUEENS (Cont'd)

COASTING (Cont'd)

Highland Park

Snake Hill turn to Jamaica Avenue

Kissena Park

Hill at rear of parking field down from garage toward woods, adjacent to drainage canal, 164th St., Flushing, L. I.

SKIING

Alley Pond

Motor Parkway, Horace Harding Blvd. to Winchester Blvd., Hollis, L. I.

Crocheron

Baseball Field to 35th Avenue, Bayside, L. I.

RICHMOND

ICE SKATING

LAKES

Martling's (Clove Lakes Park) - Clove Road

Willowbrook Park - Richmond Avenue & Victory Boulevard

Wolf's Pond Park - Cornelia Avenue

WADING POOLS

Clove Lakes Playground - Glenwood Place & Clove Road

De Matti Playground - Tompkins Avenue & Chestnut Lane

McDonald Playground - Forest & Myrtle Avenue

Model Playground - Jewett & Castleton Avenues

TENNIS COURTS

Walker Park - Dolefield Place & Davis Avenue

FLOODED AREA

Both Levels of parking space at Silver Lake Golf Course

COASTING

LaTourette Golf Course - Forest Hill Road

10th Fairway

Silver Lake Golf Course - Forest Avenue & Clove Road

5th Tee to Forest Avenue

SKIING

LaTourette Golf Course

17th Fairway

Silver Lake

From 8th Tee to Forest Avenue

From 9th Tee to Forest Avenue

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK

TEL. REGENT 4-1000

SUNDAY
For Release DECEMBER 18,
1938

J. M. Seelip, Jr. 834

The contract for the erection of one of the famous Vanderbilt Gates at the entrance to the Conservatory Gardens at 105 Street and Fifth Avenue in Central Park was awarded today by Cortrude Vanderbilt Whitney to Abraham M. Goldsmith, Room 1937 Grand Central Terminal Building. The estimated cost of the work is \$15,000.

The gate and fence fabricated in Paris of wrought iron with scroll work and ornamentations of cast bronze were designed by George B. Post in 1894 for the mansion of Cornelius Vanderbilt at 58 Street and Fifth Avenue.

The gates and fence placed in storage when the mansion was demolished in 1928 will now through the generosity of Mrs. Whitney make a beautiful setting for the Gardens.

The work to be done under the supervision of the Park Department will begin on December 19 and the erection will be completed on March 1st, 1939.

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DECEMBER 16, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

MONDAY
For Release DECEMBER 19, 1938

835

The Annual Christmas Exhibit in the Department of Parks Greenhouse in Prospect Park will be opened to the public Tuesday, December 20, 1938. The Exhibit will consist of 5000 exceptionally fine Poinsettias in three colors, white, pink and red. A fine collection of other Christmas plants, such as Begonias, Christmas Cherries, Scotch Heather, Primroses, Camellias, Bird of Paradise, and Lemon and Orange trees in fruit will also be shown.

Doors will be open every day from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Greenhouses located at Prospect Park West between Seventh and Ninth Streets.

- E N D -

DECEMBER 17, 1938

Library

836
For Release _____

RELEASE
December 20, 1938

Bids were received this morning in the Arsenal Building by the Department of Parks for another contract on the Circumferential Parkway.

This is the sixth contract prepared and bid on for work on this project since the Federal grant through the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works was made to the city (October 10, 1938).

The contract bid on today is for the grading, drainage and paving on the Southern Parkway section of the Circumferential Parkway between Arthur Street and Brookville Boulevard, Queens and for the construction of two bridges over the parkway, one at Springfield Boulevard and the other at 225th Street.

This operation adjoins the work on that section upon which bids were taken on December 12th and will be of a similar nature, that is, the construction of the south service road and the east and west bound parkway traffic lanes. As in the last contract the plans and specifications were prepared by the New York State Department of Public Works, which will also supervise the construction. This section was also rough graded by the W.P.A. last summer under the supervision of the City Park Department.

With the completion of this job on October 1st, 1939, parkway facilities on the Southern Parkway will be available for public use from Baisley Boulevard to the Southern State Parkway, by way of the completed Laurelton section.

RELEASE
December 20, 1938

The three low bidders were:

Petracca & Banko 187-47 Iliion Avenue St. Albans, L. I.	\$565,358.35
Poirier & McLane, Inc. 33 West 42nd St., New York City	567,576.60
National Excavation Corp. 10 East 40th Street New York City	575,774.50

Library

8 3 7

For Release IMMEDIATELY

*
The Department of Parks announces that bids were received today on the seventh contract for work on the Circumferential Parkway. This work is being financed jointly by New York City and the Federal Public Works Administration. The estimated cost of the whole project is \$28,000,000 of which the F.W.A. is furnishing \$12,000,000 in the form of a grant.

This contract covers the grading and drainage work of the parkway from the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge approach to Fort Totten. Work on the adjoining section, from Fort Totten to Northern Boulevard, is already under way.

It has been possible to prepare and take bids on these seven contracts only because of complete cooperation on the part of F.W.A. and the Board of Estimate in progressing this project. With the start of construction on this contract, work will be under way on more than one-half of this thirty-five mile project. The total of all seven bids on the contracts amounts to more than \$5,000,000, or 20 percent of the total job. It was not until October 13th of this year that the Board of Estimate authorized this construction and all of this work has been let since that time, which is at the rate of one contract every ten days. The whole project must be completed by July 1, 1940, which allows only an eighteen month period for completion of all this construction.

The three low bidders on today's contract were:

S. J. Grover and Sons, Inc. Municipal Building Ridgefield, New Jersey	\$570,630.00
Nicholas DiMenna and Sons, Inc. 1521 Blondell Avenue Bronx, New York	572,945.00
National Excavation Corporation 10 East 40th Street New York City	609,430.00

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DECEMBER 23, 1938

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK
TEL. REGENT 4-1000

838
For Release IMMEDIATELY

The Bronx Playgrounds Operetta and Orchestral Clubs, sponsored by the Department of Parks, will give three performances next week of Gilbert and Sullivan's perennial favorite, "Pirates of Penzance". The opening performance will be given at the Museum of Natural History Auditorium, Wednesday, December 28th at 8:15 P.M., and the remaining two at Mullaly Recreation Building Auditorium, 165th St. & Jerome Avenue, December 29th and 30th at 8:15 P.M. It will be the first performance of the combined clubs.

The Operetta Club organized last spring now has sixty members. Each performance next week will have a different set of principals. For those who understudy the principal characters, an opportunity to play the part is given during the second and third performances. When it is not their turn to take a principal role, all sing in the chorus. The competition is very keen and it is extremely difficult at times to select cast one, two and three.

The Orchestral Club was only organized two months ago with a dozen members. It now has a membership of thirty and they have made great progress in a short time. In addition to combining with the Operetta Club they will also be heard independently during the coming year.

The combined Clubs also publish their own newspaper called "Sharps and Flats".

All costumes for the production with the exception of the principals have been made by the Playground Directors. Admission to all performances is free.

December 23, 1938

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PROGRESS IN THE PARK DEPARTMENT: 1934 - 1938

December 1938
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January 19, 1934, marked the consolidation of the five former separate borough Park Departments into a single department under one commissioner. An immediate inspection showed the City park system to be in a generally dilapidated condition, staffed with an inadequate number of employees, most of whom were poorly trained and undisciplined, and were handicapped by outmoded equipment. Recreational areas were open only five hours a day. Nobody turned a hand on Sunday to clean up litter left by park visitors. The Park Department budget had reached a 7-year low.

Without doubt the greatest achievement of the past five year period of the park consolidation has been the increase, over three-fold, in recreational facilities and the general rehabilitation and reconstruction of park areas made possible by the relief program. While the number of relief workers in New York City parks has fluctuated since 1934, there has been a total of 200,000 man years of labor provided to the park program. Naturally this figure, which is difficult to understand, has produced many improvements of lasting benefit.

119 playgrounds throughout the five boroughs were the heritage of the consolidated Park Department. Those old areas, while they were styled playgrounds, could not, by any stretch of the imagination, compare with the modern recreational centers built during the last five years.

There are today 372 playgrounds, ranging from small neighborhood plots of a quarter acre to large developments such as Macombs Dam Park in The Bronx, Red Hook and McCarron Parks in Brooklyn, and Randall's

Island, adjacent to the East Harlem section of Manhattan, all developed to take care of every type of recreation for both children and adults and modern in every respect. They are paved in great part with surfaces that make them usable throughout the year, shaded by a profuse planting of trees, and modern, hygienic wading pools, used for basketball in the spring and fall and for skating in winter, have been incorporated in their design. 100 recreational buildings have been constructed to house toilet facilities and to provide indoor activities during inclement weather. The needs of every age have been satisfied from the tiny playhouses and little swings for children of pre-school age, the baseball diamonds, handball and basketball courts for the adolescents, and the croquet lawns, horseshoe pitching, shuffleboard and bocci courts for the adults.

The value of the playgrounds is best proved by the startling improvement in child welfare from 1933 to the present. In 1933 there were 6,269 arrests for juvenile delinquency, while this year there will be less than 4,000. In 1933 the total number of injuries to children on streets in the five boroughs was 12,271, this year there will be less than 7,000. It must be conceded that the new playgrounds are responsible, in large measure, for these reductions.

New construction in old parks has produced such facilities as the new zoos in Central and Prospect Parks and in Barrott Park, Staten Island, the improvement of the lower reservoir site in Central Park, the entire reconstruction of Bryant Park and Stuyvesant Park, and hundreds of lesser projects.

Five 18-hole and three 9-hole golf courses have been increased to ten full size courses with three new and two completely remodelled golf houses. Tennis courts have been doubled in number with seven hundred available, of which many are hard surfaced to extend materially the season of play.

One fairly modern but small swimming pool in Staten Island and one totally inadequate, unsanitary and unattractive plant at Betsy Head Park in Brooklyn supplemented, in 1934, the ocean beach of Jacob Riis Park in providing outdoor bathing facilities under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. It is one of the tragedies of New York life, and a monument to past indifference, waste, selfishness and stupid planning that the magnificent boundary waters of the city have been in a large measure destroyed for recreational purposes by haphazard industrial and commercial development and by pollution through sewage, trade and other waste. These conditions were frankly recognized and eleven new swimming pools, each the last word in modern construction, were built and opened to the public in 1936.

Jacob Riis Park, the ocean front beach on the Rockaway Peninsula, has been completely reconstructed and its former shamefully narrow beach more than doubled in area. In Pelham Bay Park in The Bronx a new Orchard Beach has risen from the haphazard ruins of the Pelham Bay Naval Training Station, famed during the World War. Five million yards of fill topped on the Sound side by one million yards of clean, white sand, has created this new development on a site where formerly open water divided Hunter Island from Rodman's Neck. The mile-long beach and boardwalk, the bathhouse for 6500 patrons and the parking space for 8000 cars have made this area so popular that the Park Department has, on occasion, been forced to close it because of the excessive crowds attracted by its facilities.

On Randall's Island the Triborough Stadium, under the shadow of the bridge from which it obtains its name, has been the scene of varied sports events and light opera presentations. Its track is considered to be one of the best in America and four worlds' records are entered on its record books.

In addition to the great amount of park rehabilitation and new construction financed with relief funds, three Authorities, created by law to afford arterial improvements, have left their imprint on the city during the last four years. The Triborough Bridge limped along from 1927 to 1934, the only progress made being the creation of the Authority and the construction of the main anchorages. From 1934 to July 11, 1936, when the bridge was opened by President Roosevelt, the Authority worked in close cooperation with the Park Department so that it was really to all intents and purposes built under Park Department auspices. It has added miles of parkways to the city system; the East River Drive, forming the Manhattan approach, is 1-1/2 miles long; the Queens approach, which includes the Grand Central Parkway Extension, is 6-1/4 miles long; while The Bronx approach, also 6-1/4 miles long, was effected by the widening and repaving of Southern Boulevard, Whitlock Avenue and Eastern Boulevard. The Triborough Bridge Authority has also arranged for the financing and is supervising the construction of the new Bronx-Whitestone Bridge with parkway approaches in The Bronx and in Queens, where it will connect with Flushing Meadow Park, the site of the World's Fair of 1939. The design of this project has been worked out by consulting engineers to the Park Department, and three park areas are being developed adjacent to its approaches in line with the principle adopted by the Park Department of establishing increased local park and recreation facilities along a free-flowing traffic artery for motorists and of defraying the cost, where possible, by the issuing of bonds supported by tolls.

The Henry Hudson Parkway Authority was created in 1934 and a bond issue of \$3,100,000 was offered for sale in April, 1935. The city acquired new right-of-way in The Bronx and through a combination of work by the relief authorities, the Parkway Authority and the State Department of Public Works, the 4-1/4 miles of the Henry Hudson Parkway in The Bronx, was constructed and opened in December, 1936. 6,622,869 cars, or enough to pay the carrying charges 2-1/2 times, passed over the bridge spanning the Harlem River from its opening date to December 31, 1937, and an extra bond issue of \$2,000,000 was arranged for an upper deck on the bridge, and for new and widened approaches, which were completed and opened to the public in May, 1938. Since that date a million cars a month have passed through the toll booths. The Marine Parkway Authority was financed through a bond issue of \$6,000,000 in 1935, and on July 3, 1937, the Marine Parkway Bridge, spanning Rockaway Inlet, was opened to the public a year ahead of schedule, replacing the inadequate ferry service between Brooklyn and Jacob Riis Park.

In October, 1938, the Henry Hudson and Marine Parkway Authorities were combined into the New York City Parkway Authority, which, while maintaining and operating the established facilities, is converting 1-1/2 miles of beach slum at Rockaway into a modern seaside park and providing a new bridge and a widened parkway to replace the irksome Cross-Bay Boulevard bottle-neck at the entrance to the Rockaways.

New parkways within the city limits have added 34 miles of modern landscaped motor arteries to the system. Most of these parkway improvements have been financed with state and federal funds and the work has been done under the direct supervision of the State Department of Public Works from plans approved by the Park Department. The most spectacular development, however, is the 11-mile Henry Hudson Parkway, which, starting at 72nd Street, takes the express motor traffic of the West Side Elevated Highway from Canal Street to the Saw Mill River Parkway at the Westchester County line. This \$24,340,000 improvement, financed by Federal, State and City funds, supplemented by N.Y.C.R.R. grade crossing money, was opened on October 12, 1937, and permits a motorist to drive uninterrupted from Canal Street, a block or two away from the portal of the Holland Tunnel, into Dutchess County or across the Bear Mountain Bridge into Palisades Park. 132 new acres valued at \$30,000,000 have been added to Riverside Park by filling land under water and covering the railroad tracks, and the shabby waterfront of the Hudson changed into a landscaped park with abundant facilities for active recreation.

In addition to the projects already listed, city funds have been secured for a number of major park improvements, now actively being progressed, such as the development which will make the Brooklyn shorefront along the Narrows a counterpart of the West Side Improvement in Manhattan, the work being done to supplement the relief program on Randall's Island,

reconstruction of portions of Pelham Bay and Bronx Parks in The Bronx, and the thirty acre park lying along the East River, between Grand and 14th Street in Manhattan, which is being constructed by the Borough President from plans prepared by the Park Department. The greatest project, from a standpoint of size and importance, is the work on the basic permanent improvements at Flushing Meadow Park, the site of the World's Fair. Here federal, state and city governments have combined in making \$93,000,000 available for work of lasting benefit which includes the grading of the 1200 acre park, the construction of highways and parkways with their attendant grade eliminations, the construction of storm and sanitary sewers, the dredging of Flushing Bay and the construction of a boat basin and bulkheading. All this work was coordinated by the Department of Parks so that, after the Fair is over, the most modern park in the world will be the heritage of the city.

However, much remains to be done, both in acquisition and construction, before the park system can be said to be anywhere near completion. At the present time plans are being made for new arterial parkway connections in The Bronx, and work is under way on the great 33-mile Circumferential Parkway from Owl's Head Park in Brooklyn to the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge in Queens. This project, financed by a \$12,000,000 F.W.A. grant and a \$16,000,000 City appropriation, financed by assessment, will be completed July 1, 1940, and will double the present parkway mileage. It will encircle the two boroughs with a free-moving traffic belt; will provide connections with the lesser circumferential system around Manhattan by the future Battery-Hamilton Avenue Tunnel and the Triborough Bridge, with Staten Island and the New Jersey Bridges by the future Narrows Tunnel, with Long Island by the Southern and Northern State Parkways, and with The Bronx by the new Bronx-Whitestone Bridge.

There have been other accomplishments. Park acreage has increased from 14,827 to 18,830 acres. Every square inch of land, unused or not required by other departments of the City and valuable for playgrounds, has been transferred through the Sinking Fund to the Park Department. Properties eaten up by taxes and assessments have been acquired at low cost and other lands necessary for expansion of parks and creation of parkways have been taken by condemnation. Also, the new charter has transferred, from the jurisdiction of the Borough Presidents, the beaches and boardwalks at Coney Island, Rockaway and South Beach, Staten Island; nine bath and gymnasium buildings in Manhattan; and all malls, triangles and similar small park areas through the City.

The number of park employees has increased from 3075 in 1934 to the present day 7135, all uniformed and all thoroughly instructed in their duties. This has meant a 103% rise from the \$4,710,000 budget of 1934 to the \$9,570,000 necessary to man the expanded facilities of today.

The largest objectives for the remaining years of the present administration are nearly all, in some part, under way, and attainment will depend entirely on availability of funds, whether relief or capital funds appropriated by the City. In the forefront of these projects is Ward's Island Park, which will be entirely evacuated by the State and turned over to the City for park purposes in 1943, and where, under a scheme of orderly transfer of inmates, agreed to by Governor Lehman, portions of the Island are now being developed for active recreation. A ramp from the Queens approach and a footbridge over the Harlem River will make this 177 acre island readily accessible to the residents of Astoria and to the dense population of East Harlem directly across the East River. In The Bronx, the new Soundview Park, which is now being filled by the Sanitation authorities, will provide 90 acres of needed recreational space at the mouth of the Bronx River and at the terminus of the new Bronx River Parkway Extension. Also, in The Bronx, much remains to be done in Van Cortlandt and

Felham Bay Parks, for whose intensive development plans have been prepared. In Manhattan, the completion of the work at Inwood and Isham Parks will make this section, from the recreational standpoint, one of the best rounded-out in the City, while some of the oldest parks, such as Battery, City Hall and Washington Square will be reconstructed according to more modern standards. In Queens, of course, the big job is to finish Flushing Meadow Park, the bulk of which will be done within a year after the closing of the Fair. Another important objective in this borough is the development of Jamaica Bay for recreation purposes. In Brooklyn, Marine Park still presents a 1563 acre field for development, some of which is being progressed at the present time while other portions will be done in connection with the Circumferential Parkway development. Also, in Brooklyn, the Canarsie Beach development will also proceed concurrently with the construction of the Circumferential. In Richmond, Marine Park at Great Kills will be given further impetus by proposed government dredging operations and the new system of parkways will be studied and land acquired for them.

While various governmental agencies have aided considerably in the improvements, the general comprehensive plan for the development of the park system for New York City, laid out in January, 1934, has been strictly followed without wasted effort due to overlapping jurisdiction. Every promise made has been kept and the public has received maximum use and benefit from a minimum of expenditure.

The reorganized department has an efficient staff operating in a businesslike way for the transaction of everyday business affairs. The employees, all of whom are civil service, have their duties definitely defined and they are performing them efficiently under the guidance of qualified, technically trained supervisors.

What was once a run-down inadequate neglected collection of park properties, is now the leading coordinated, progressive park system in this country. Its spread of facilities and comprehensiveness amazes visitors of other great cities or those who have been absent from the city for a period of years.

The Department of Parks has faced its problems honestly. However, there remains the problem of maintenance, that is, whether the citizens of New York City and those who live on its borders are ready to protect and maintain, by their conduct and purses, all these new improvements.

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J. M. Keating, Jr.

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Thirteen contractors crossed their fingers today, Friday the 13th, and submitted bids on the construction of three bridges on the Cross Island section of the new Belt Parkway. The bids were opened at the Arsenal, Headquarters of the Department of Parks, in the presence of officials of the Public Works Administration, the Federal agency that is furnishing twelve of the twenty-eight millions of dollars needed to construct this parkway.

The work to be done under this contract, the eighth to be bid since this project was approved on October 13, 1938, covers the construction of three bridges. These three structures are within a few blocks of each other and will solve the grade separation problems caused by the intersection of the new parkway with the Bronx-Whitestone Parkway near the Queens approach of the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge now under construction and due for completion in this coming May.

Two of the bridges will be of the type of structure known as rigid frame two-span concrete arches. Both are skew bridges, that is the bridge roadway crosses the lower roadway at an angle. The skew angle on the bridge at 14th Avenue which will carry two-way 14th Avenue traffic over the Cross Island Parkway is approximately 43 degrees and 30 minutes. The angle of the 149th Street bridge which will carry that Avenue's traffic over the Parkway is approximately 18 degrees and 50 minutes.

The third structure is of a type unusual in this area in that it has three levels. The lower level will be the pavement on grade carrying two-way traffic between the Bronx-Whitestone Parkway and the Cross Island Parkway. The middle level carried on a single span steel

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Plate girder will take the south bound traffic from the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge to the Cross Island Parkway. The third or upper level, also a single span steel plate girder with approach spans of reinforced concrete will carry north bound traffic on the Bronx-Whitestone Parkway to the Bronx Whitestone Bridge. The middle span crosses the lower parkway at a skew angle of approximately 56 degrees while the upper level crosses the middle one at a skew angle of approximately 64 degrees. The abutments and retaining walls of this structure are of stone faced concrete supported on steel pipe piles.

The site of this three level structure was the scene of the dedication exercise of the new Belt Parkway participated in by Harold A. Gray, Assistant Administrator, Federal Public Works Administration, Mayor LaGuardia, Commissioner Moses and other city, state and federal officials on December 10, 1938.

The completion date for this work is August 12th, 1939.

The three low bidders were:

1. Nicholas DiMenna & Sons, Inc. \$330,651.00
1525 Blondel Avenue, Bronx, N.Y.
2. Tully & DiNapoli, Inc. 340,265.50
1 Bridge Plaza
Long Island City, N.Y.
3. A. E. Ottavino, Inc. 340,337.50
Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.

January 13, 1939

J. W. Hearsey

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Bids were opened today by the Department of Parks, at the Arsenal, Central Park for the construction of a Grade Separation structure at Hillside Avenue on the Cross Island section of the New Belt Parkway.

This contract adds another link to the chain of operations on this parkway being financed jointly by New York City and the Federal Public Works Administration.

This structure, which will carry Hillside Avenue traffic over the Parkway is a stone faced, double-span, elliptical arch bridge, and is the ninth contract to be bid since the Belt Parkway Project was approved on October 13, 1938.

This bridge will be completed by July 1, 1939 and during its construction traffic on both 244th Street and Hillside Avenue will be maintained by means of adequate detours.

The three low bidders were:

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| 1. A & J Ciancuilli
1015 Saw Mill River Road, Yonkers | \$135,191.00 |
| 2. Boyer Construction Co.,
25 West 43rd Street, N. Y. | 140,981.75 |
| 3. A. Catapano
36 Ashford Street, Bklyn. | 142,682.75 |

JANUARY 20, 1939

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